

# LISLE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

By Team engiNUity

# LJHS+



**Northwestern University**  
DOE Solar Decathlon 2023  
Education Building Division

# OUR TEAM



**Polen Ton**  
3rd Year Undergrad  
Civil Engineering



**Alonzo William**  
3rd Year Undergrad  
Civil Engineering



**Nasser Nduhi**  
3rd Year Undergrad  
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**Dylan Meretsky**  
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**Peter Pinder**  
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**Lola Mull**  
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Engineering



**Josh Holtgreive**  
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**Claire Petersen**  
2nd Year Undergrad  
Biomedical Engineering



**Hajra Malik**  
3rd Year Undergrad  
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Minor in Architecture



**Matt Schilling**  
4th Year Undergrad  
Computer Engineering



**Hector Morales**  
2nd Year Undergrad  
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**Lachlan Stevens**  
2nd Year Undergrad  
Manufacturing & Design  
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**Noora Bahrami**  
3rd Year Undergrad  
Civil Engineering



**Robert Szymczyk**  
4th Year Undergrad  
Civil Engineering



**Douglas Aris**  
2nd Year Undergrad  
Civil Engineering



**Asher Gunn**  
2nd Year Undergrad  
Manufacturing & Design  
Engineering

## Perkins&Will



**Neil Reindel,**  
AICP, RELi AP  
Designer and  
Adjunct Professor

## Northwestern McCORMICK SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING

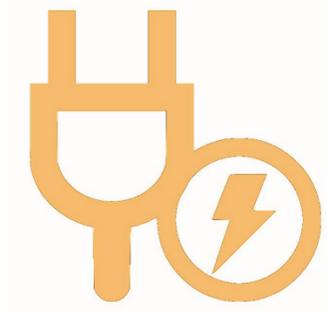


**Dr. Giorgia Chinazzo**  
Assistant Professor of  
Instruction and Director  
of Architectural  
Engineering and Design  
Program



# THE PROBLEMS

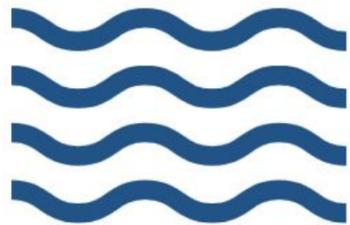
## Environmental Impacts of schools in the US



336 Trillion BTU  
of Energy



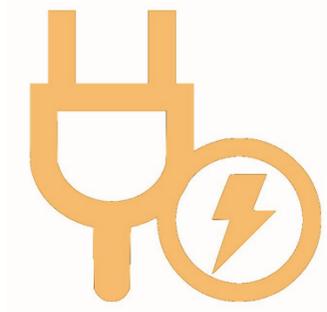
81% of US  
Energy from Fossil  
Fuels



6% Commercial  
Water Usage

# THE PROBLEMS

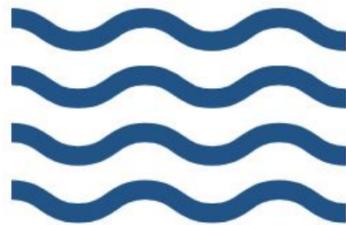
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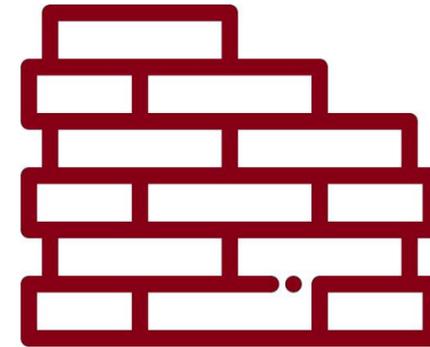


**81% of US  
Energy from Fossil  
Fuels**



**6% Commercial  
Water Usage**

## Social problems of schools in the US

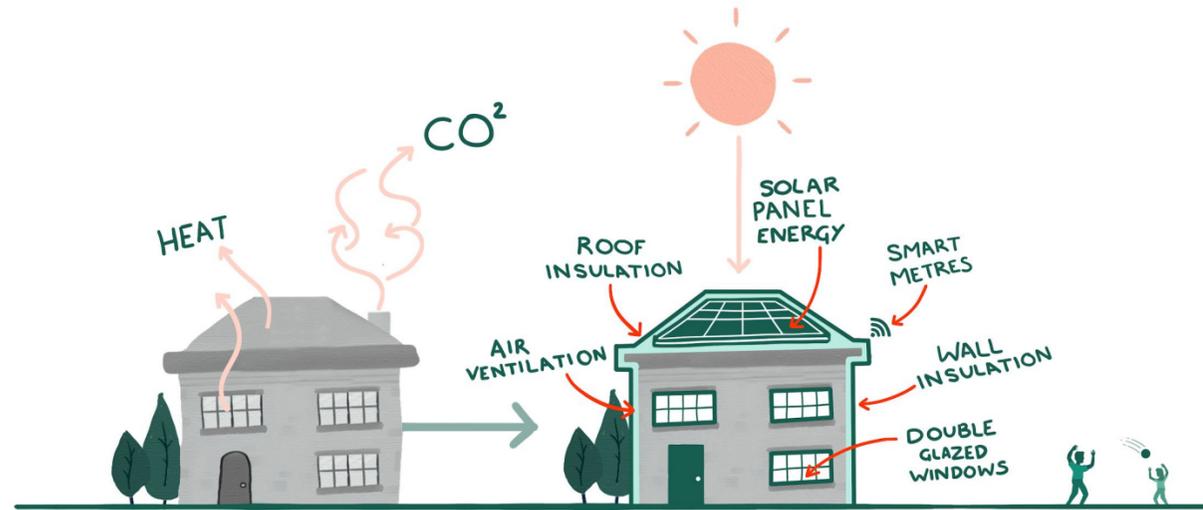


**Aging School  
Infrastructures**

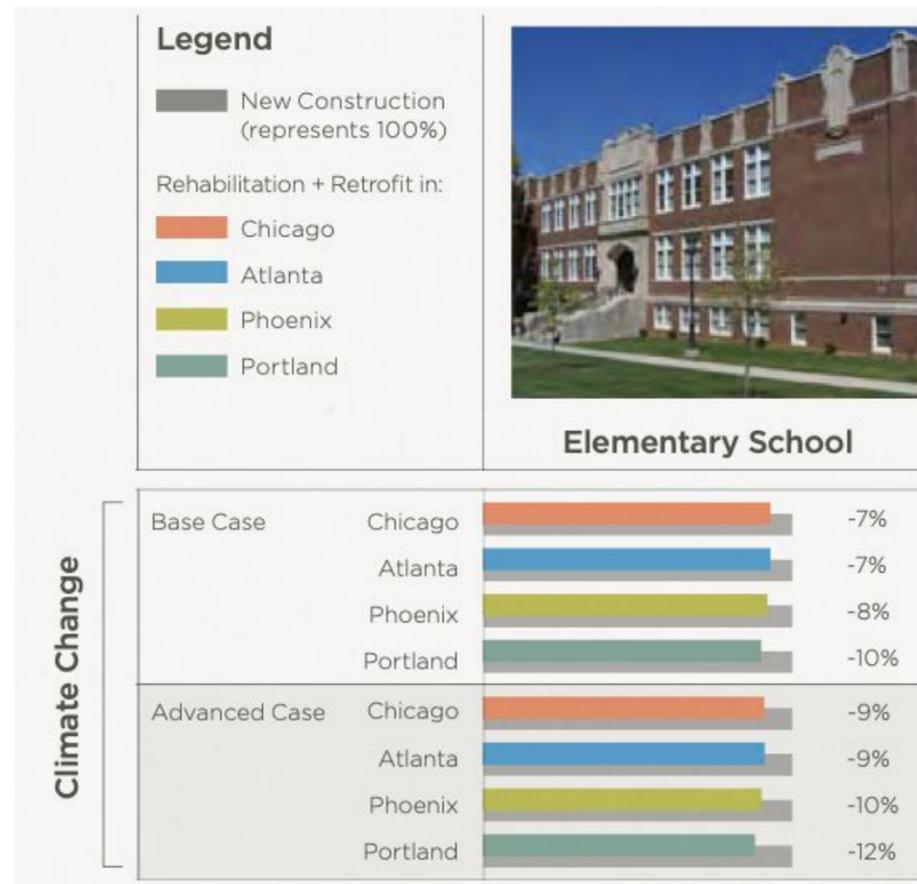
**67 years** on average in Northeast and central states

**\$110 billions** every year on maintenance, operation, and capital construction in PK-12 public school facilities

# WHY RETROFIT MAKES SENSE



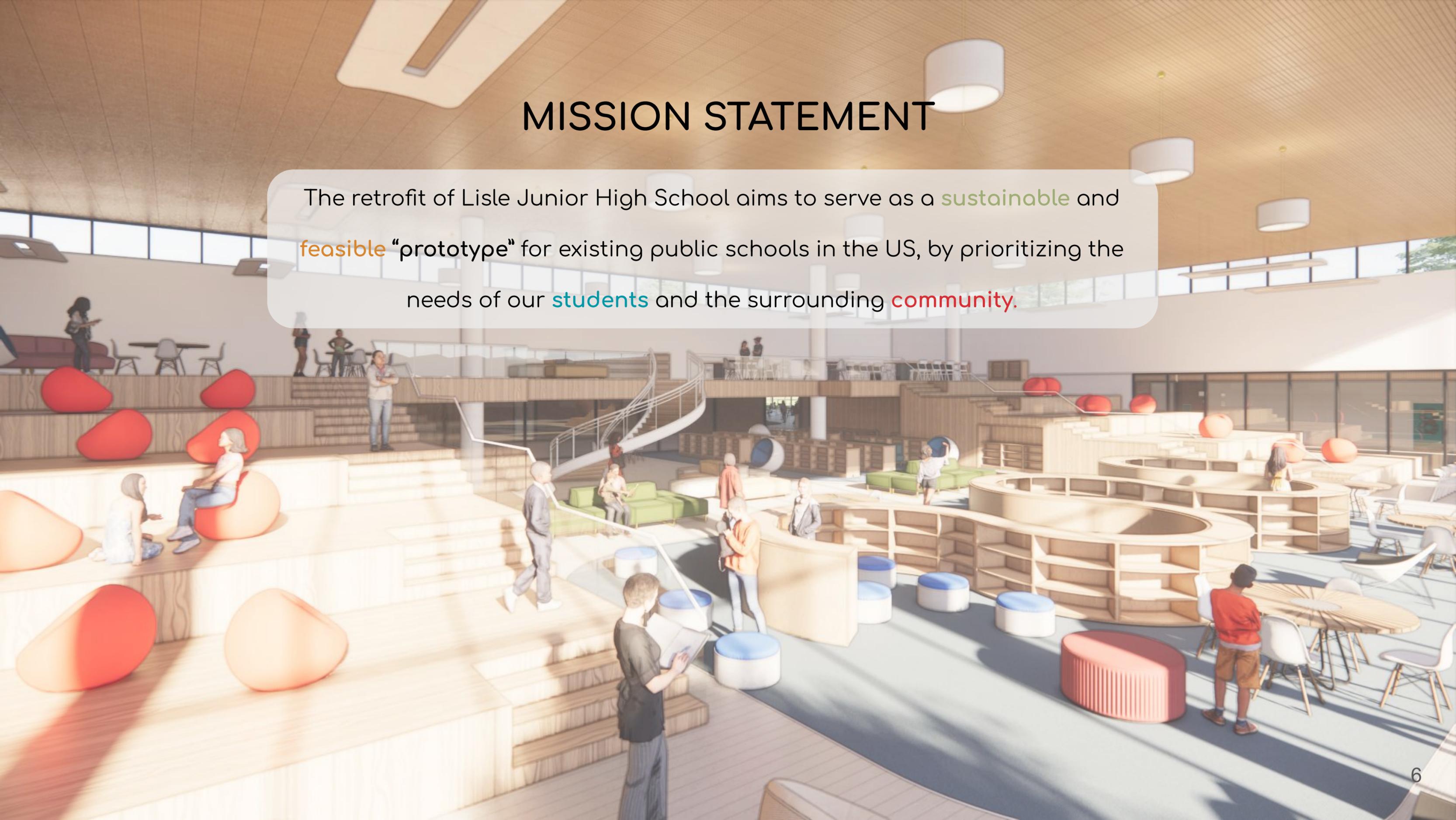
- Building operations in the Midwest have a large environmental impact
  - Due to a combined effect of **reliance on coal power** and an **extreme climate**



- Retrofitting an existing building brings cost benefits and energy reduction over a **75 year lifespan**
  - Retrofits are more likely to be approved by school boards and taxpayers than new constructions
- It takes **10 more years** for a new building to overcome negative impacts associated with construction.

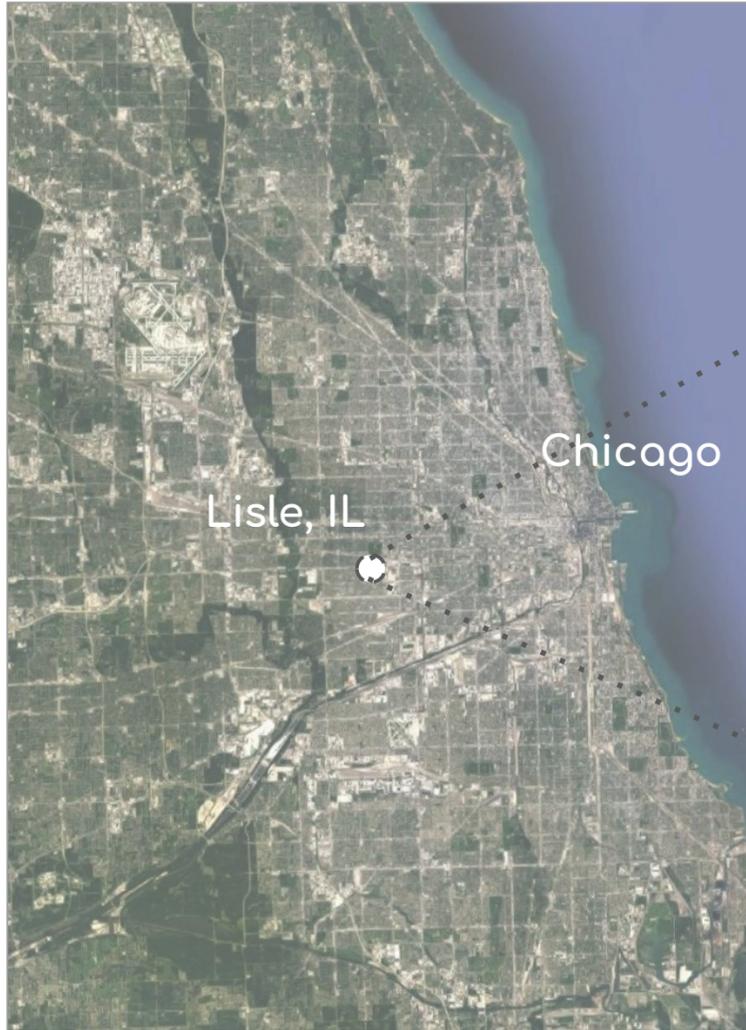
# MISSION STATEMENT

The retrofit of Lisle Junior High School aims to serve as a **sustainable** and **feasible** “prototype” for existing public schools in the US, by prioritizing the needs of our **students** and the surrounding **community**.

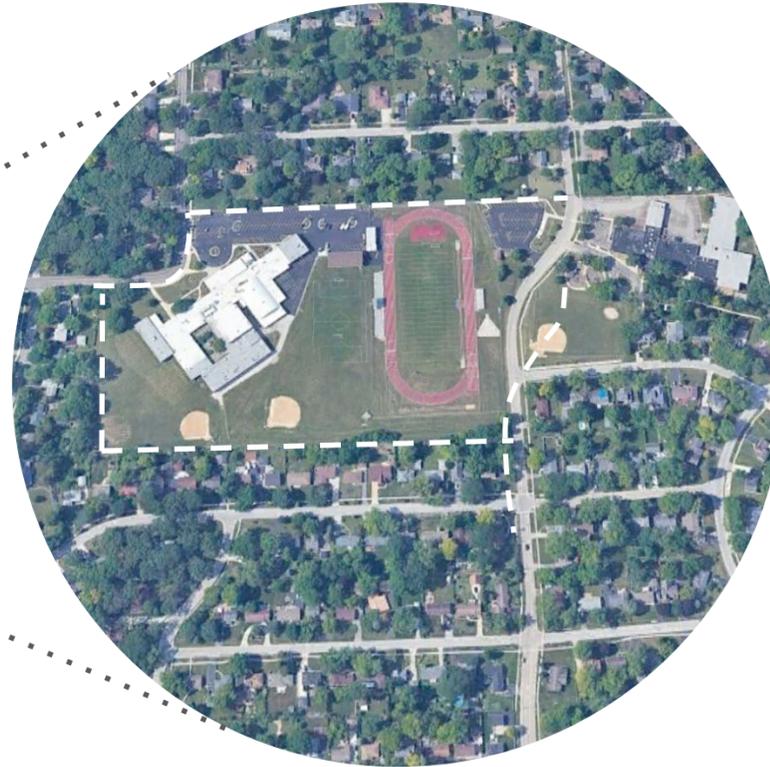


# SITE CONTEXT

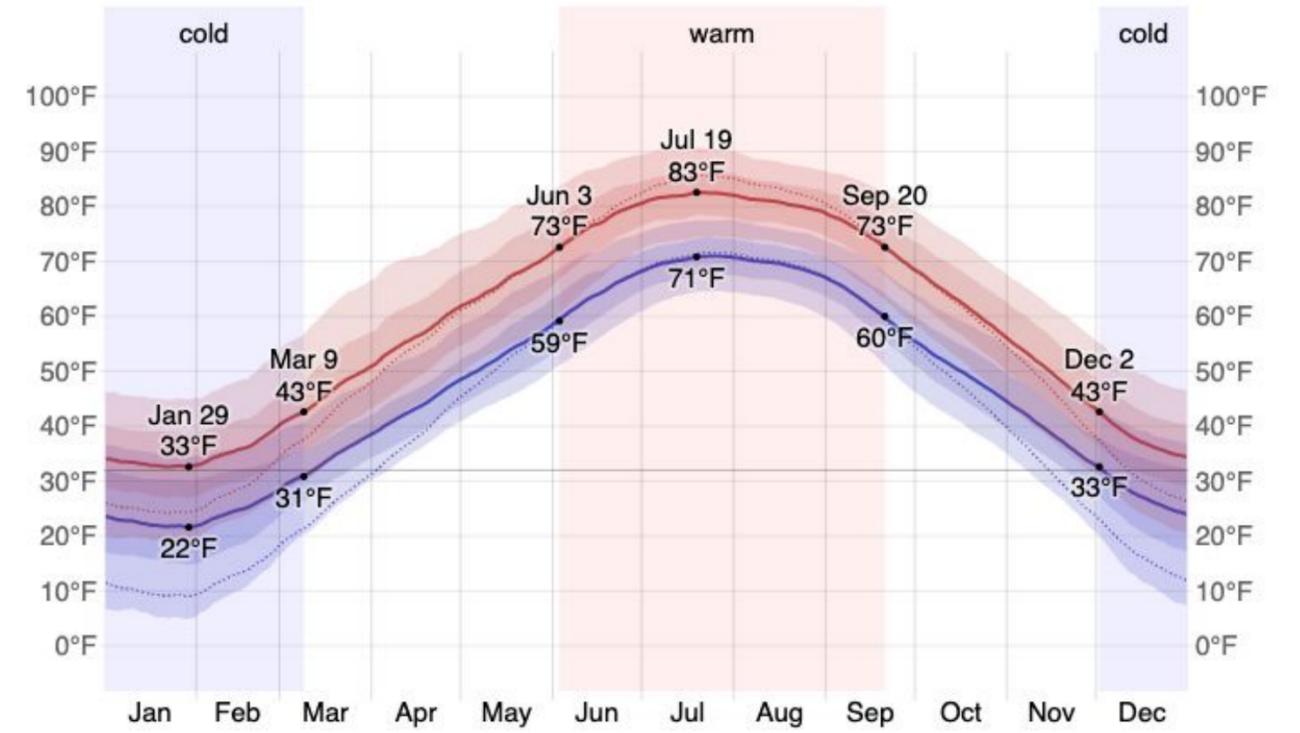
Climate Zone: 5A



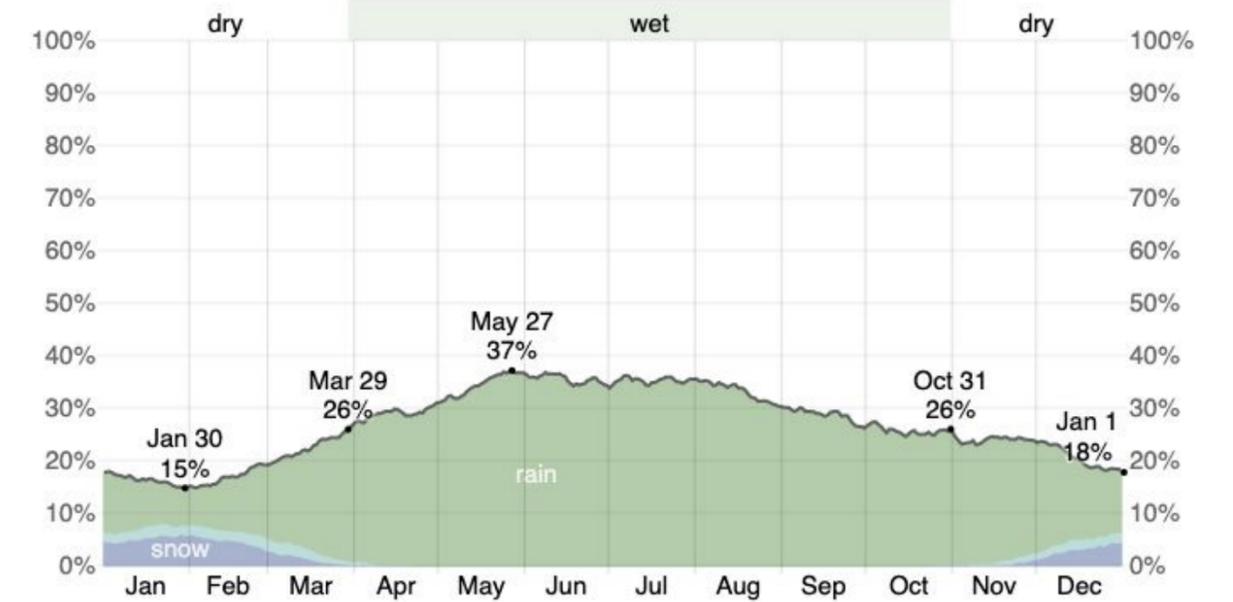
Lisle Junior High School



Temperature curve



Precipitation curve

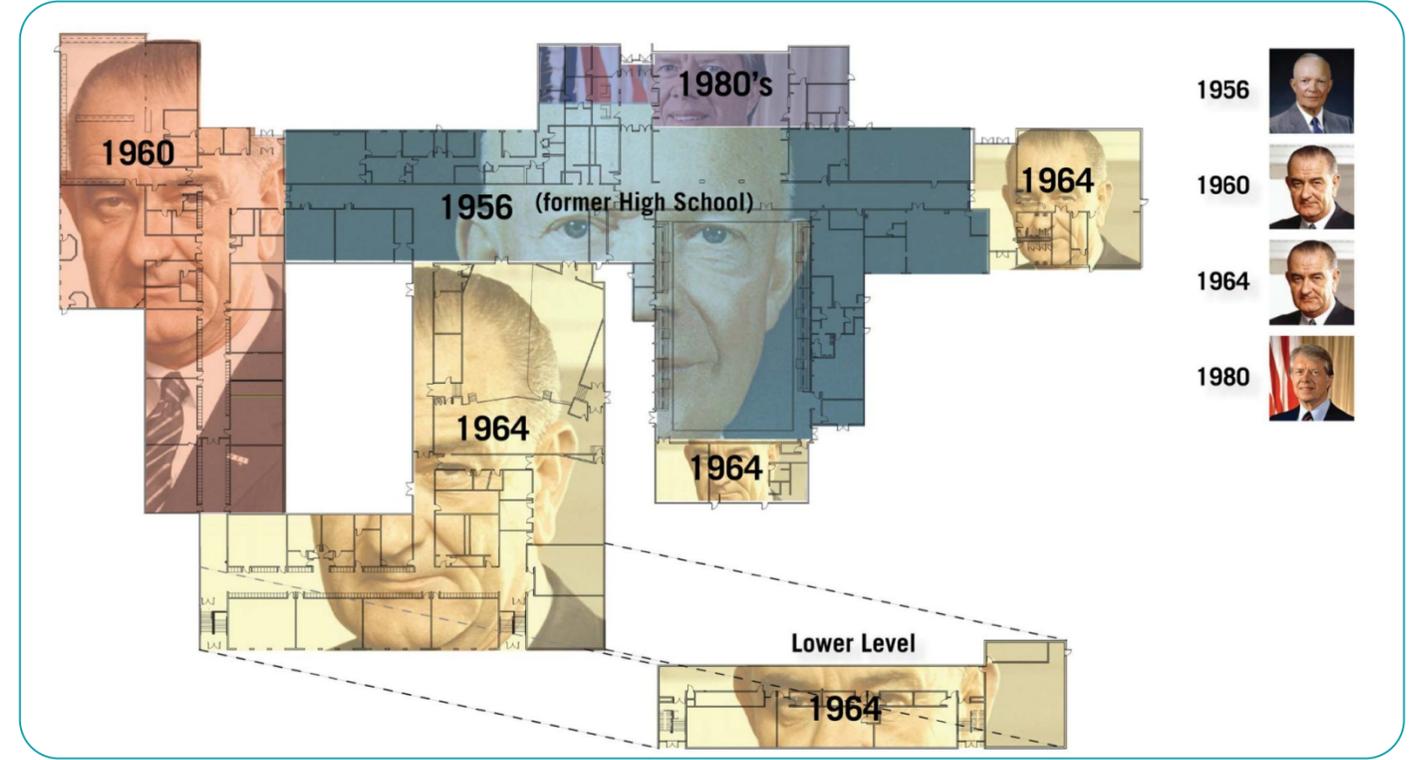


# SITE CONTEXT

Existing LJHS

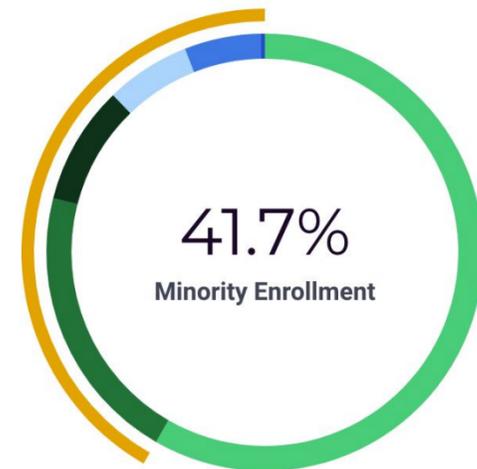


Building Chronology by President at time of construction



400 GRADE 6-8

Student Diversity



- 41.7% Minority Enrollment
- 58.3% White
- 20.7% Hispanic/Latino
- 8.8% Black or African American
- 6.3% Two or more races
- 5.6% Asian or Asian/Pacific Islander
- 0.3% American Indian or Alaska Native

Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander is not included in this breakdown due to an enrollment of 0%.

# EXISTING CONDITIONS

Uncollaborative setup



Inaccessible & Exclusive



Lack of outdoor spaces



Lack of thermal barrier



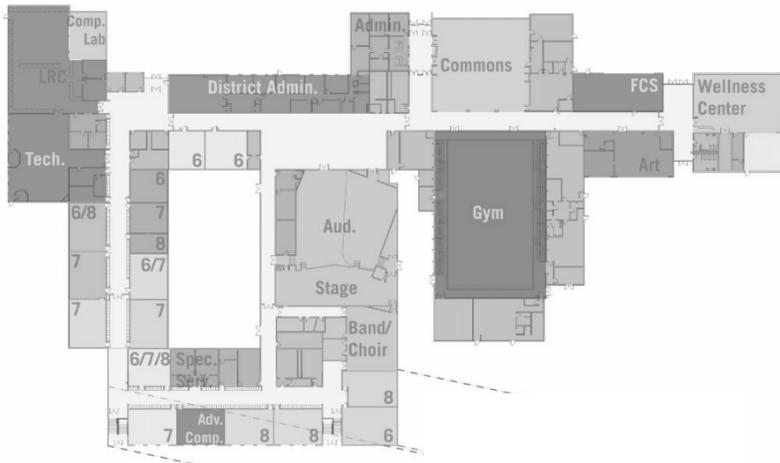
Lack of natural light



Inefficient windows

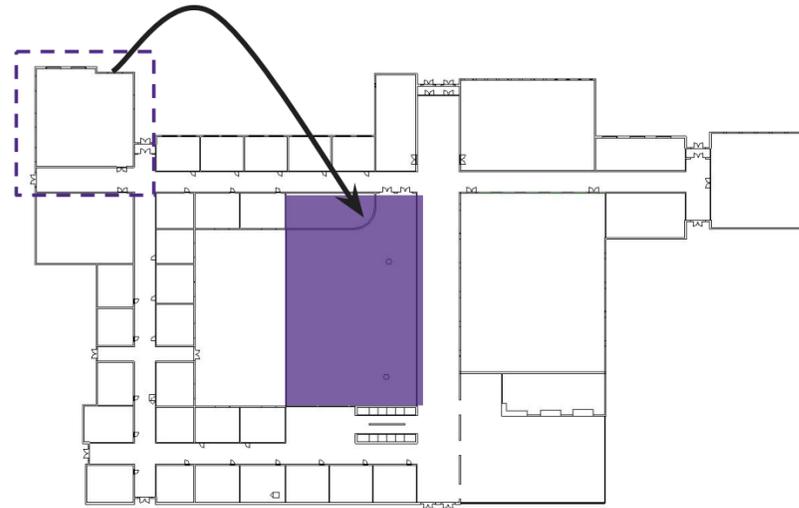


# DESIGN PRINCIPLES



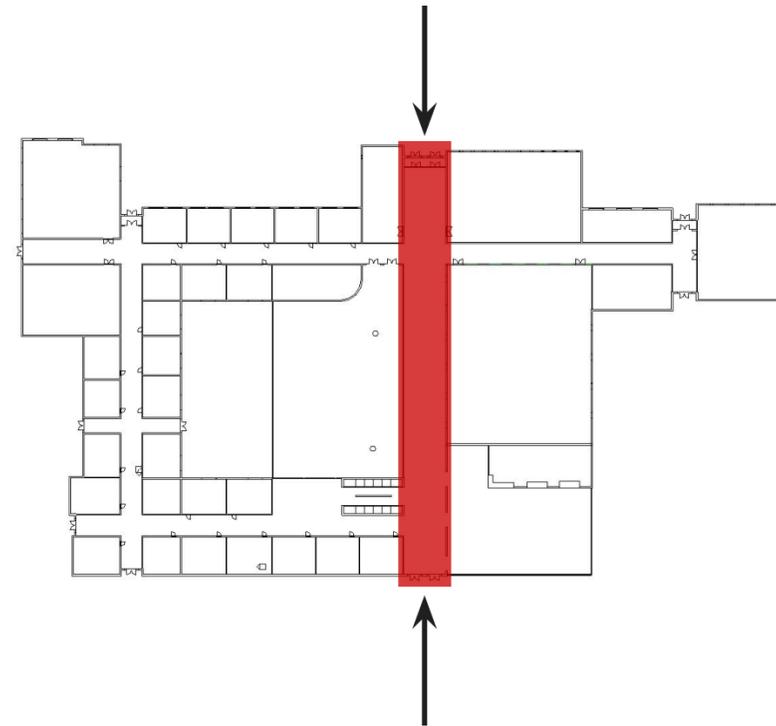
EXISTING

Programming is **splintered** and not organized around a **central principle**



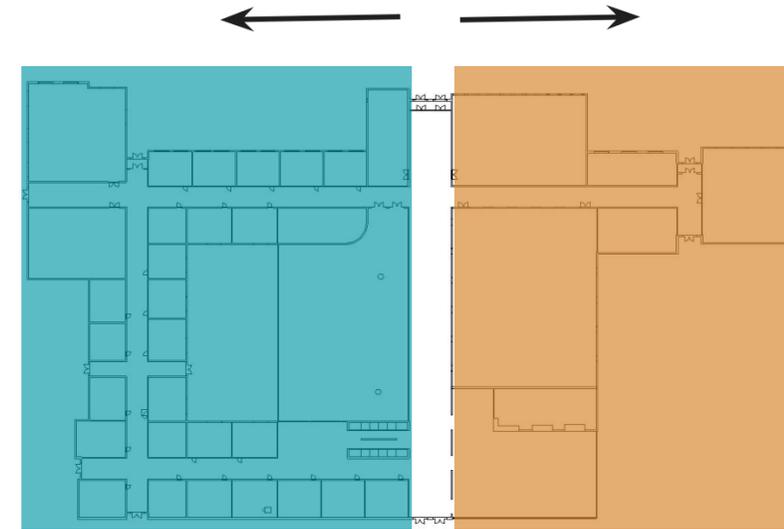
CENTRALIZE LIBRARY

Increase the size and **relocate** critical program at the **heart of school**



CREATE NEW ENTRANCE

Establish a strong linear axis **threading** major programs



SEPARATE PRIVATE FROM PUBLIC PROGRAMS

New entrance creates clear **separation** of academic environment and community programming for stronger **security** year round

# OUR CHALLENGES



CHALLENGE 1:  
OUTDATED  
LEARNING  
ENVIRONMENT



CHALLENGE 2:  
ANTIQUATED  
BUILDING  
OPERATION AND  
DESIGN



# OUR APPROACHES



APPROACH 1:

CULTIVATE AN  
ENGAGING LEARNING  
ENVIRONMENT



APPROACH 2:

ESTABLISH A  
RESILIENT &  
SUSTAINABLE  
CAMPUS



# OUR APPROACHES

## RETROFIT TO COLLABORATIVE ENVIRONMENT

- Centralize the programmes
- Provide flexible learning opportunities
- Promote interactions through indoor & outdoor activities
- Develop a more inclusive and accessible space



### APPROACH 1:

CULTIVATE AN  
ENGAGING LEARNING  
ENVIRONMENT



### APPROACH 2:

ESTABLISH A  
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### APPROACH 1:

CULTIVATE AN  
ENGAGING LEARNING  
ENVIRONMENT

## RETROFIT TO NET-ZERO ENERGY CAMPUS

- Advance to airtight envelope
- Incorporate new HVAC system
- Introduce renewable energy generation
- Implement new water management system



### APPROACH 2:

ESTABLISH A  
RESILIENT &  
SUSTAINABLE  
CAMPUS

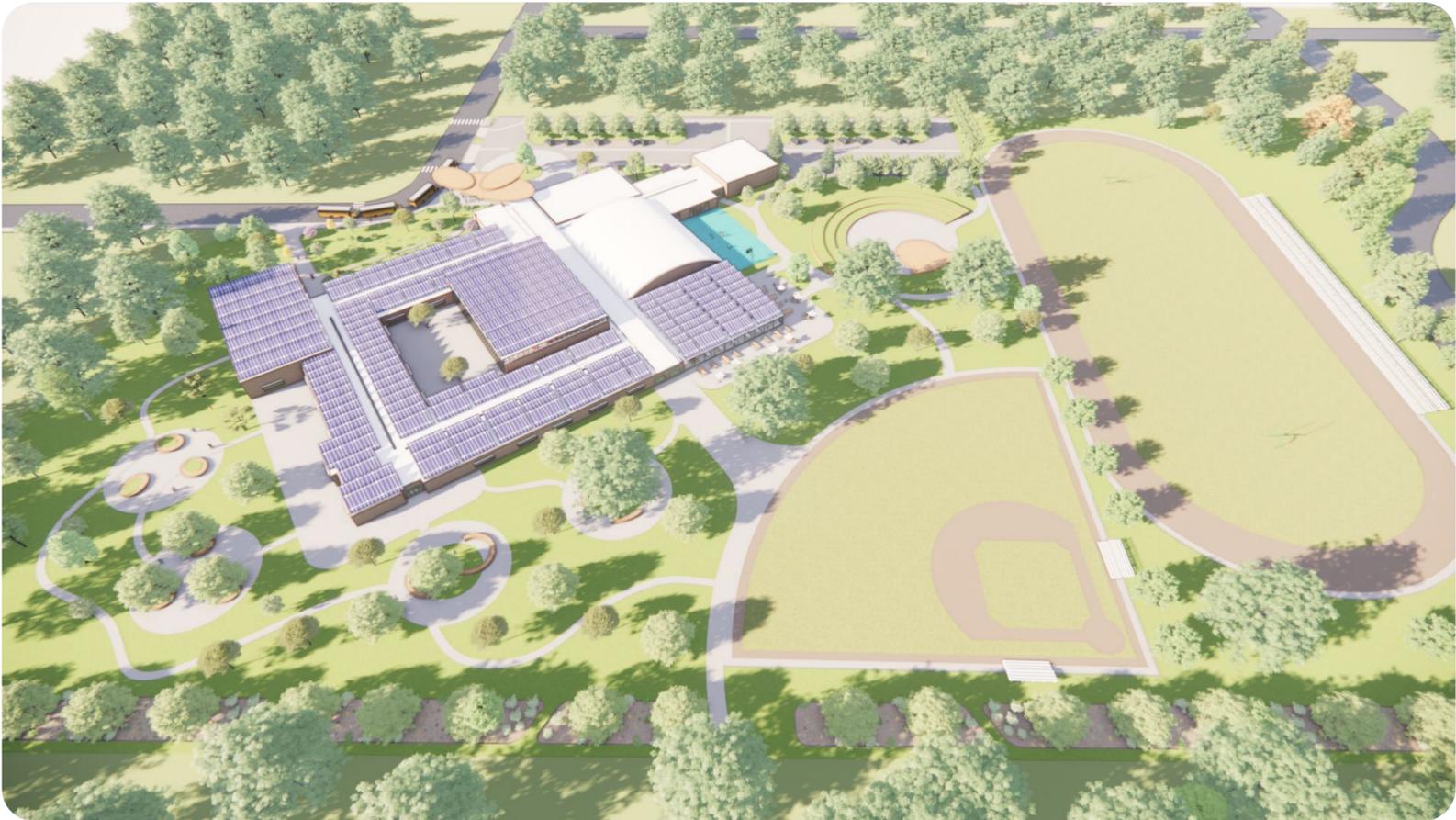


# LISLE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Current

Retrofitting outdated campus

Future





APPROACH 1

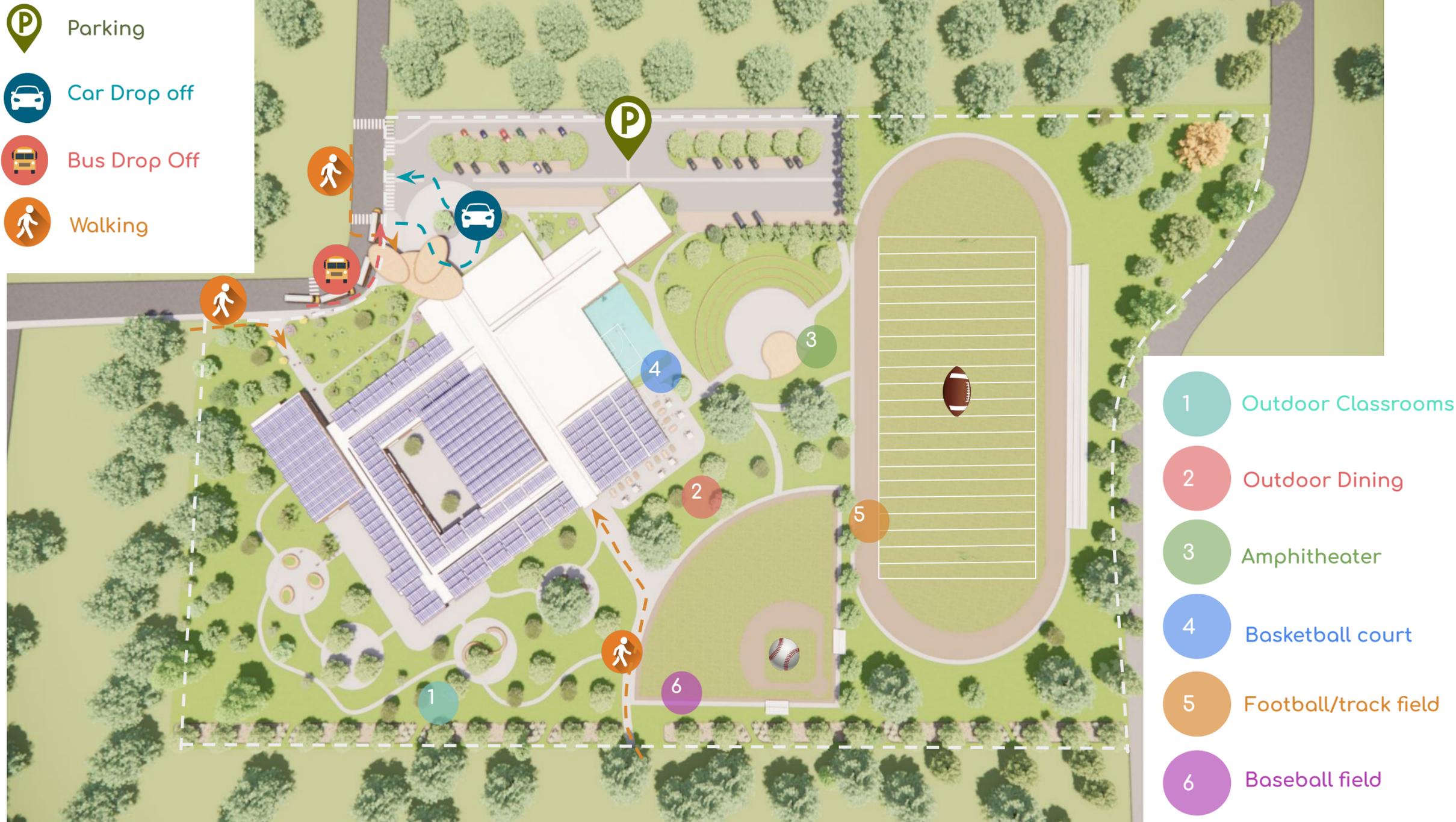
# CULTIVATE AN ENGAGING LEARNING ENVIRONMENT



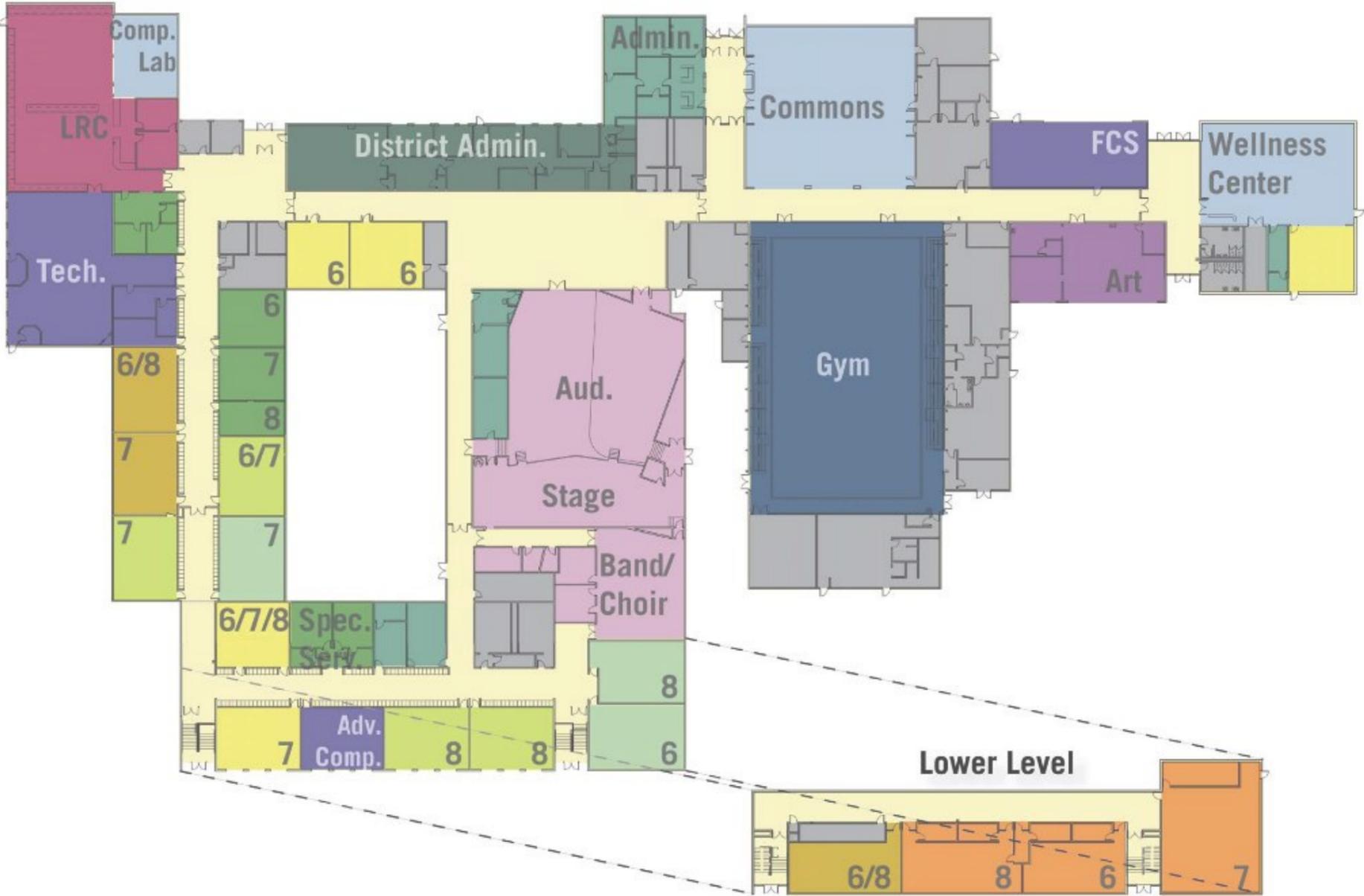
# EXISTING SITE PLAN



# PROPOSED SITE PLAN



# EXISTING PROGRAMMING



# EXISTING PROGRAMMING

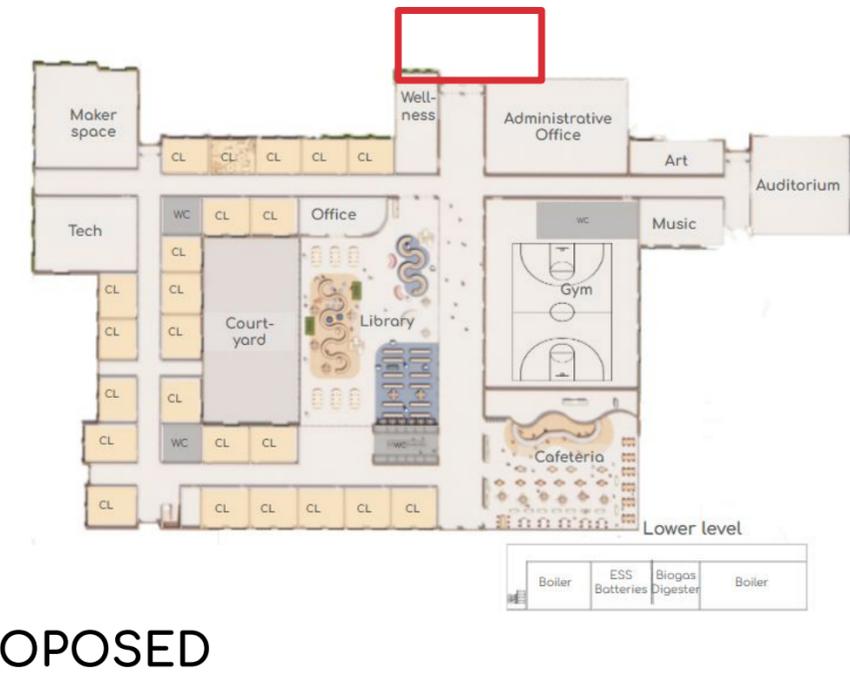
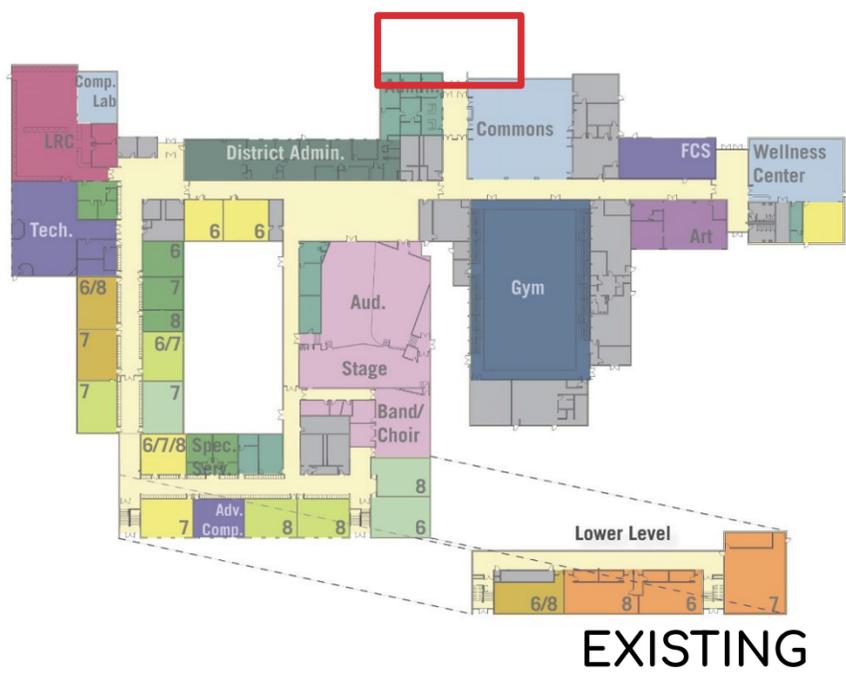


# EXISTING PROGRAMMING





# PROPOSED ENTRANCE



Unwelcoming for students' drop off; lackluster entrance

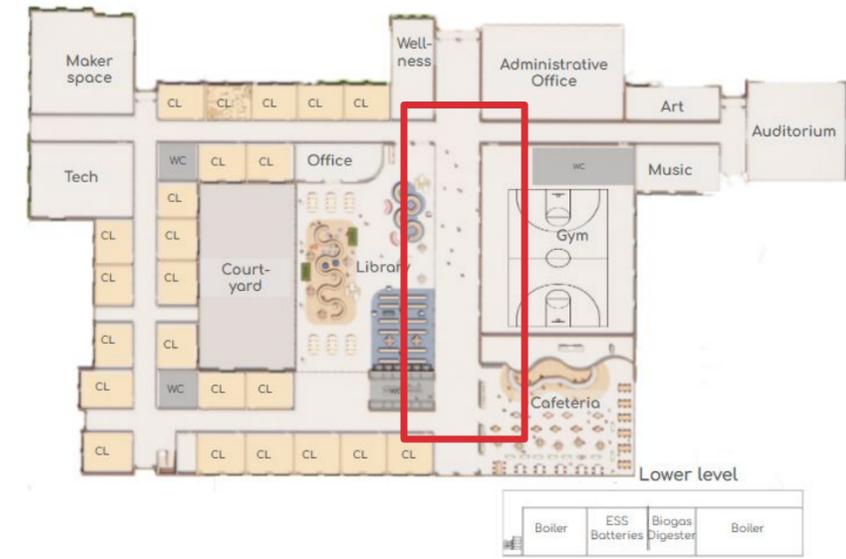


Shaded, interesting canopy to welcome students and staff

# PROPOSED CENTRAL CORRIDOR



EXISTING



PROPOSED



Dark, gloomy hallways that are not centralized

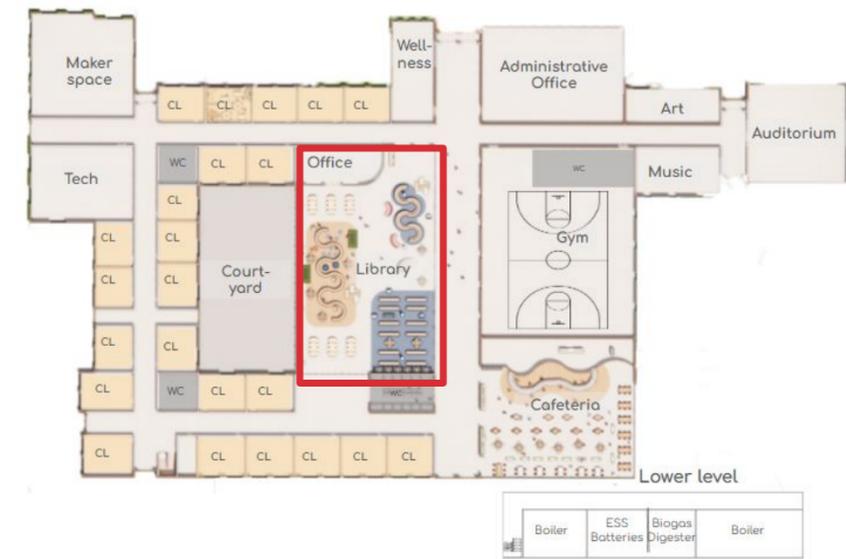


Natural sunlight and more centralized to ease movement

# PROPOSED LIBRARY



EXISTING



PROPOSED



Small windows that did not permit a view;  
limited seating options

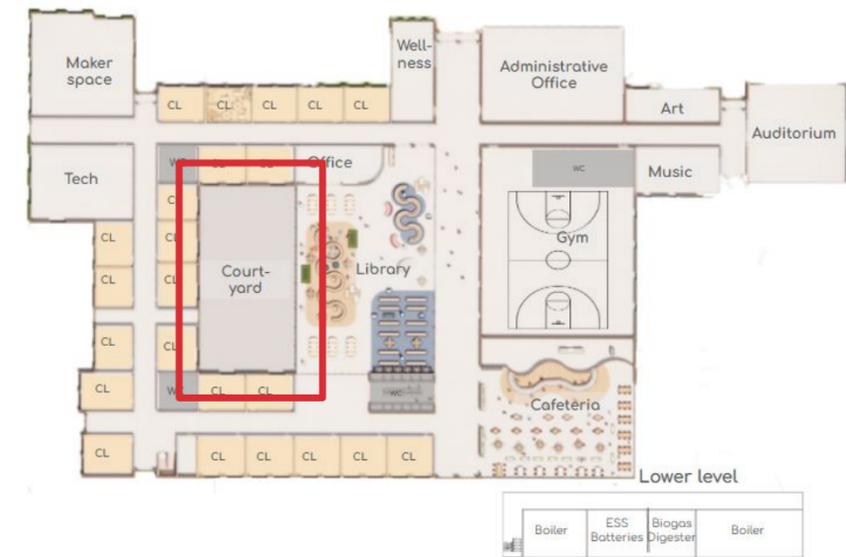


More natural sunlight, adaptable seating  
options, and centralize to the school

# PROPOSED COURTYARD



EXISTING



PROPOSED



Underutilized and not interactive

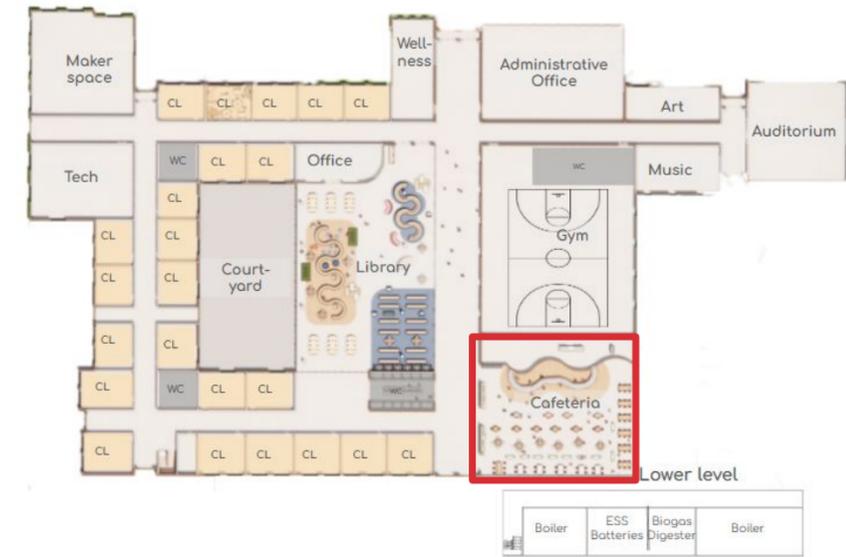


Centralized and accessible place for students and staff during recess and lunch

# PROPOSED CAFETERIA



EXISTING



PROPOSED

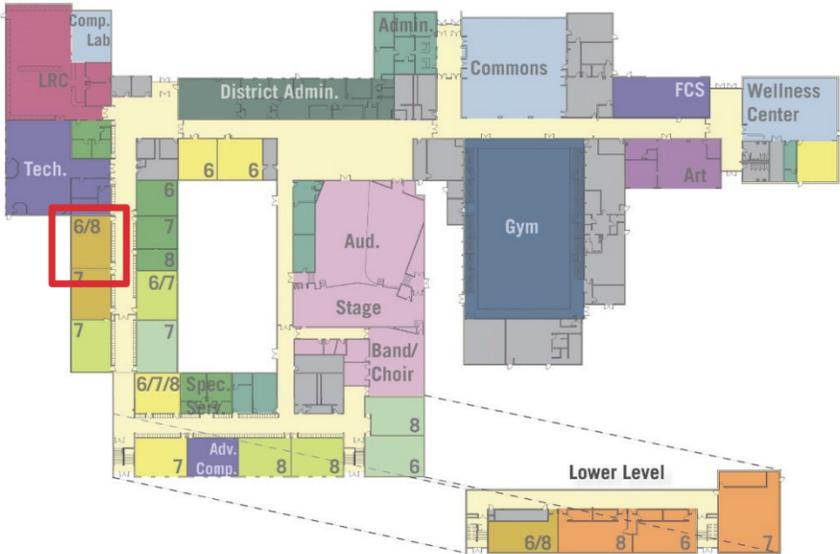


Unattractive location, right in front of the school

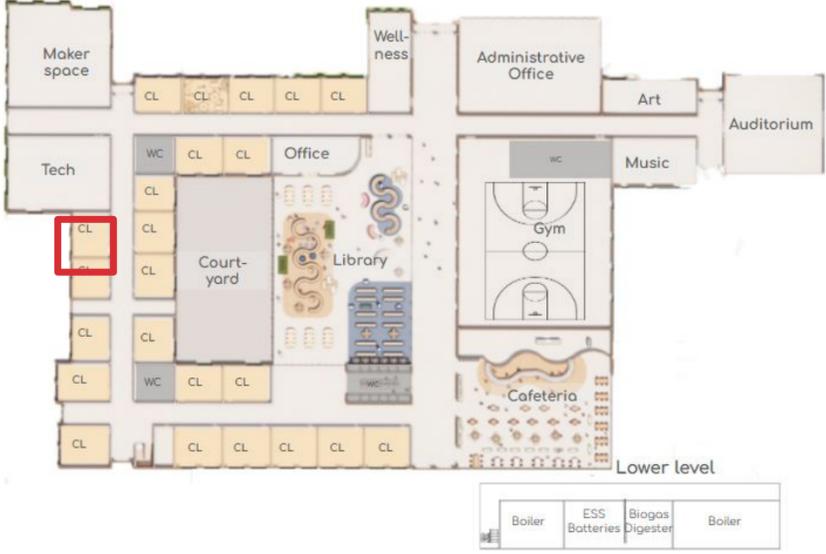


Attractive, central space to eat healthy foods with view and access to landscape

# PROPOSED CLASSROOM



EXISTING



PROPOSED



Small windows with no natural light; uncollaborative seating



More flexible learning environment with natural light



EXISTING

# PROPOSED OUTDOOR

Activating outdoor spaces outside the school to create the feel of a **School in a Park**



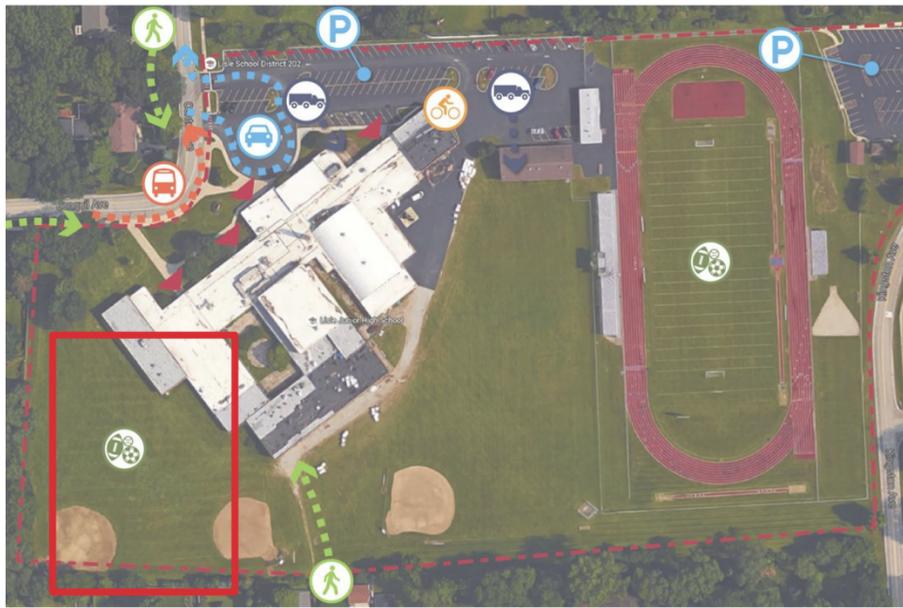
PROPOSED



Underutilized outdoor space



Variety of outdoor programming for Lisle community outside of school hours



EXISTING



Underutilized outdoor space

# PROPOSED OUTDOOR

Activating outdoor spaces outside the school to create the feel of a **School in a Park**



PROPOSED



Outdoor learning spaces easily accessible by classroom

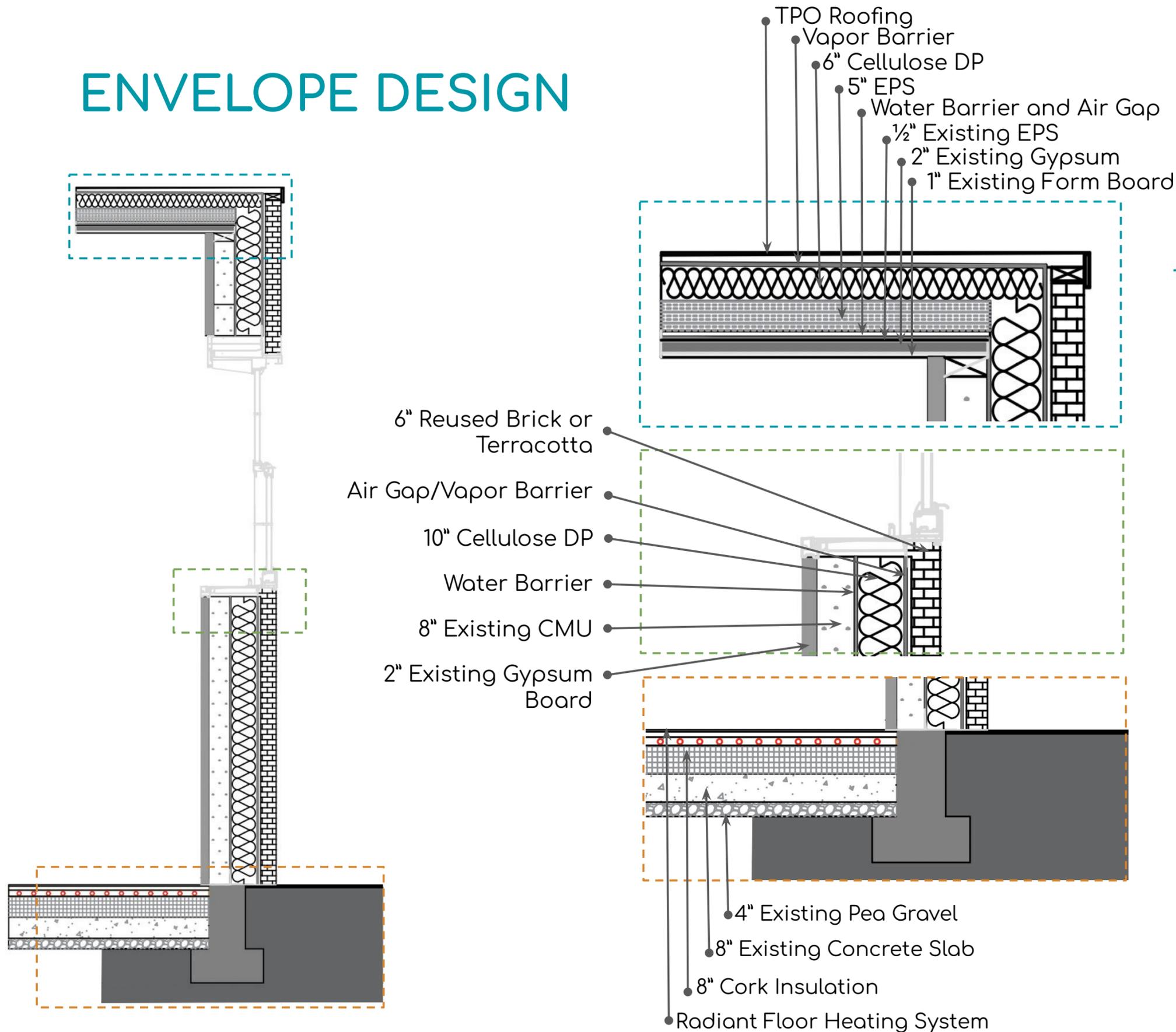


APPROACH 2

# ESTABLISH A RESILIENT & SUSTAINABLE CAMPUS



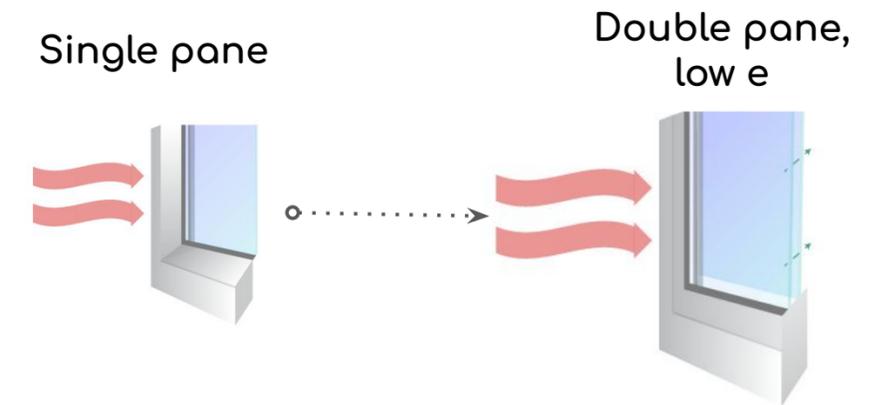
# ENVELOPE DESIGN



## PROPOSED INSULATION VALUES

SECTION	EXISTING VALUE	IECC VALUE	RETROFIT VALUE
Wall Assembly	R-7.5	R-21	R-41
Slab Assembly	R-13	R-10	R-36
Roof Assembly	R-21.4	R-30	R-44

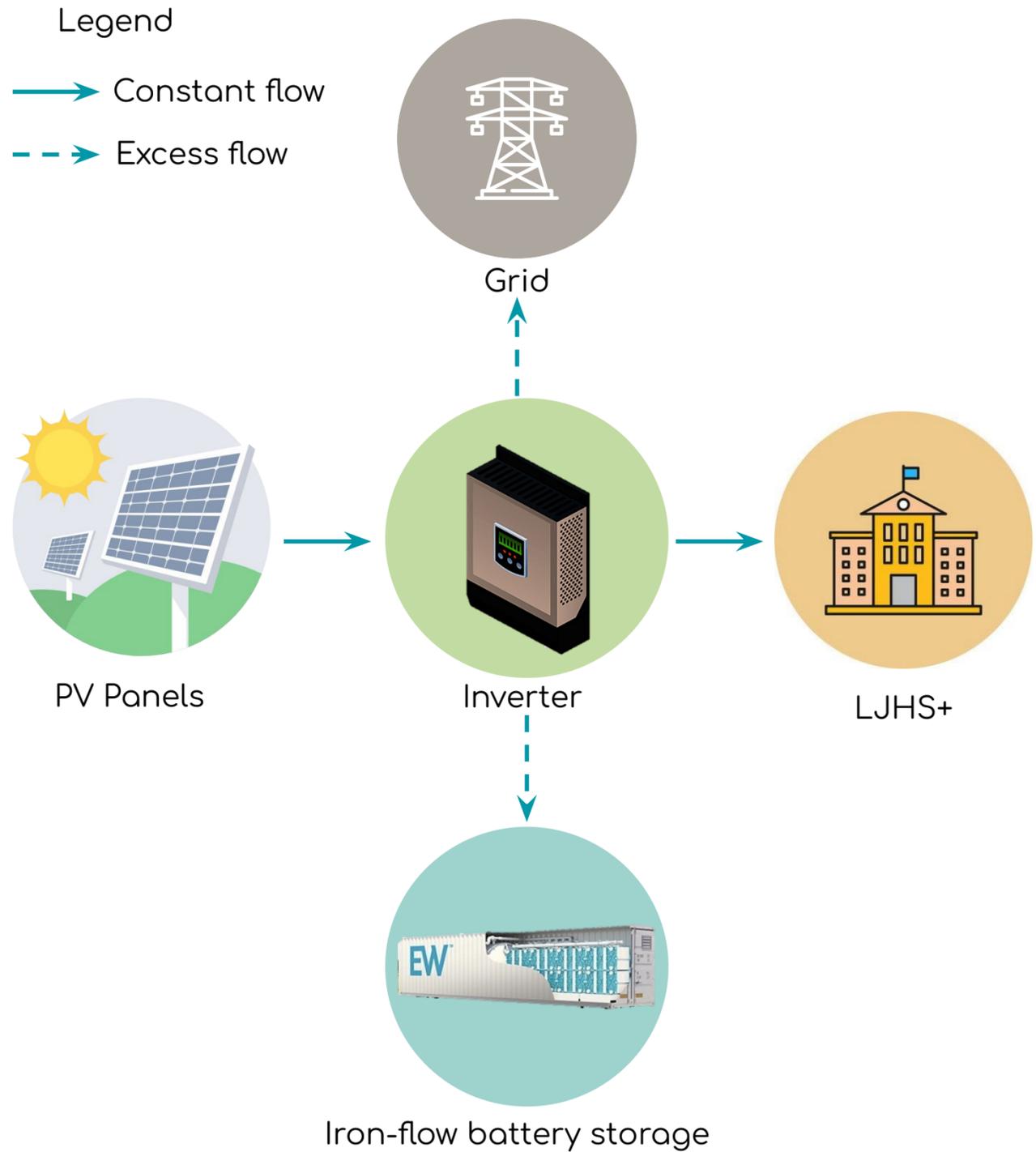
## PROPOSED WINDOW GLAZING



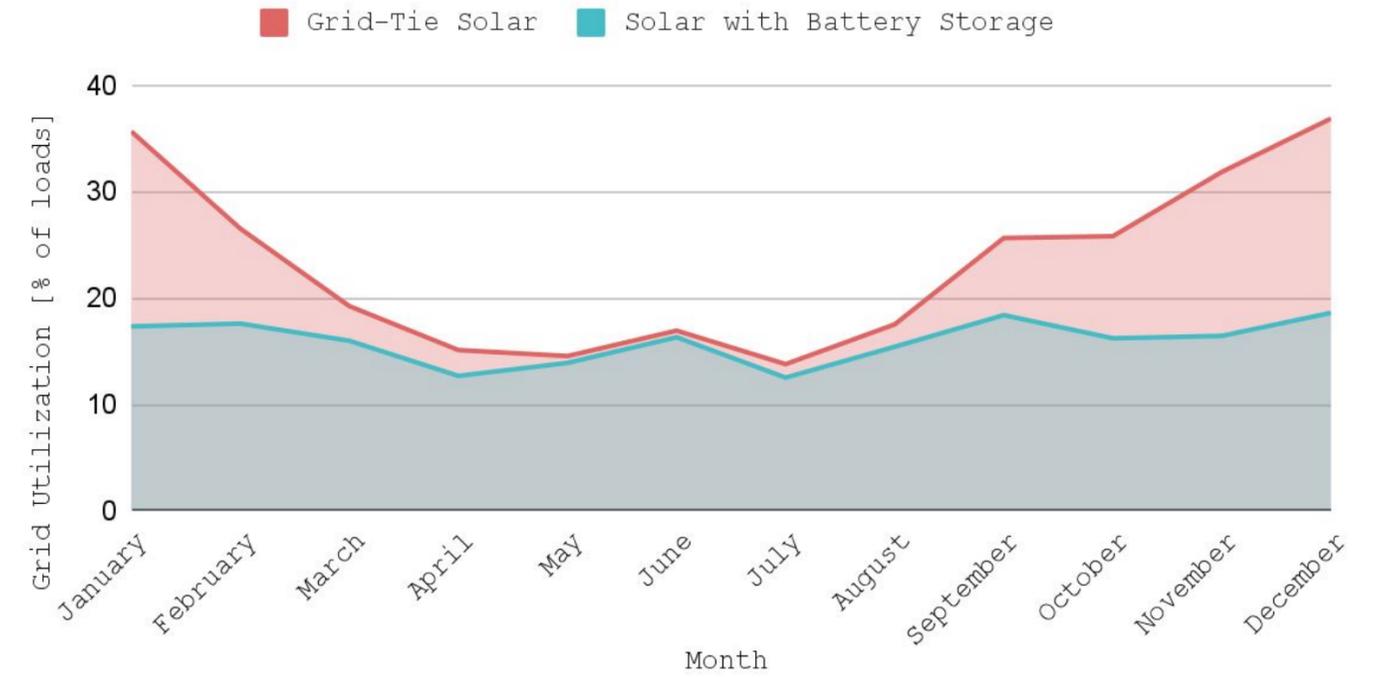
# ACTIVE ENERGY SYSTEM

## PHOTOVOLTAIC ARRAYS & STORAGE

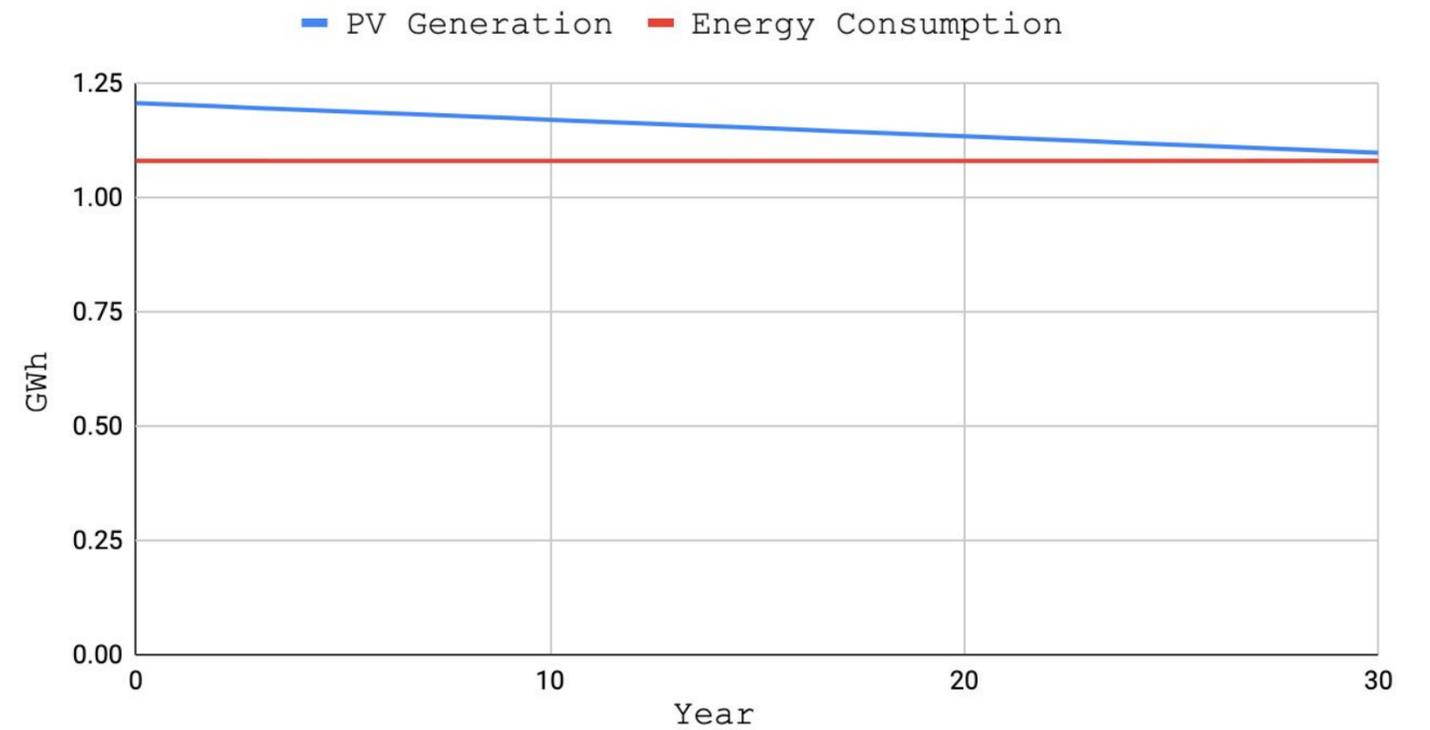
### DURING DAYLIGHT



Monthly Grid Utilization During Peak Times



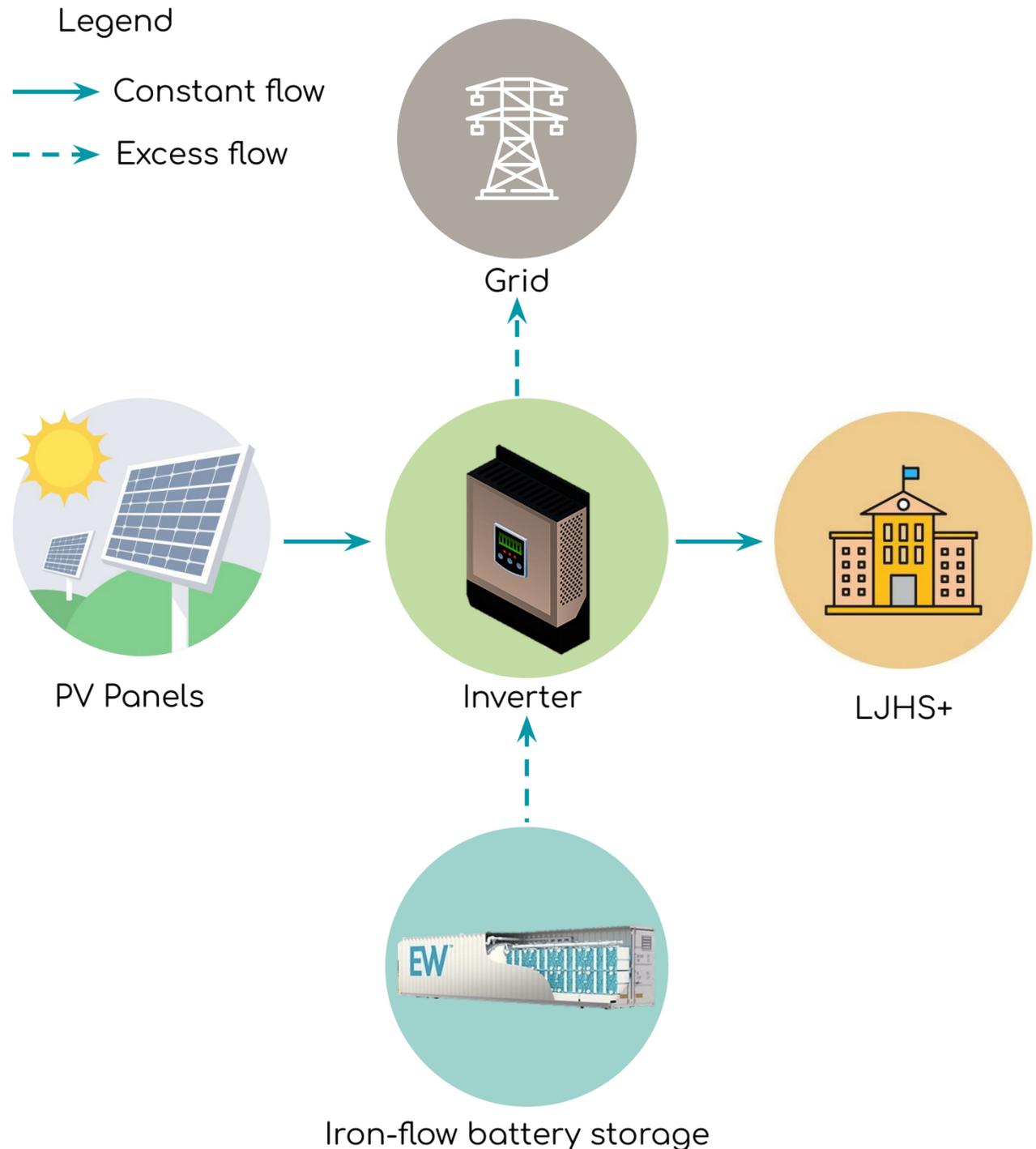
PV Generation and Energy Consumption



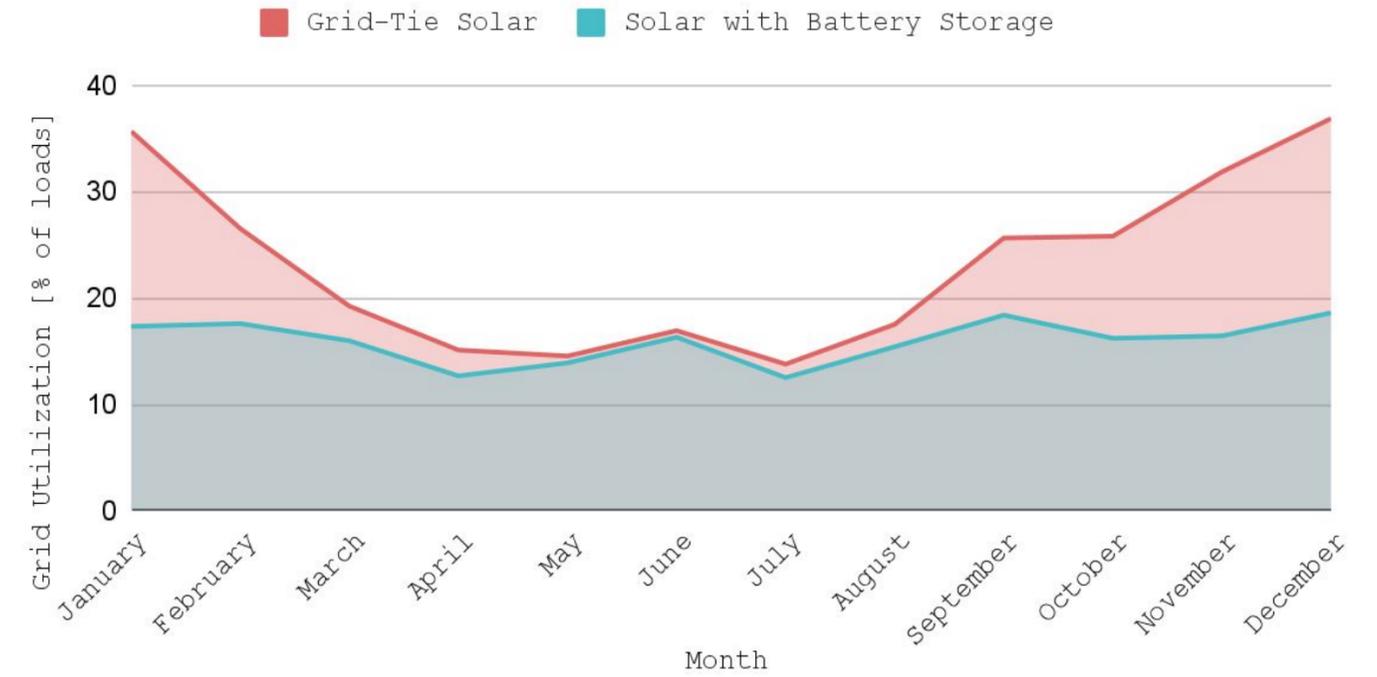
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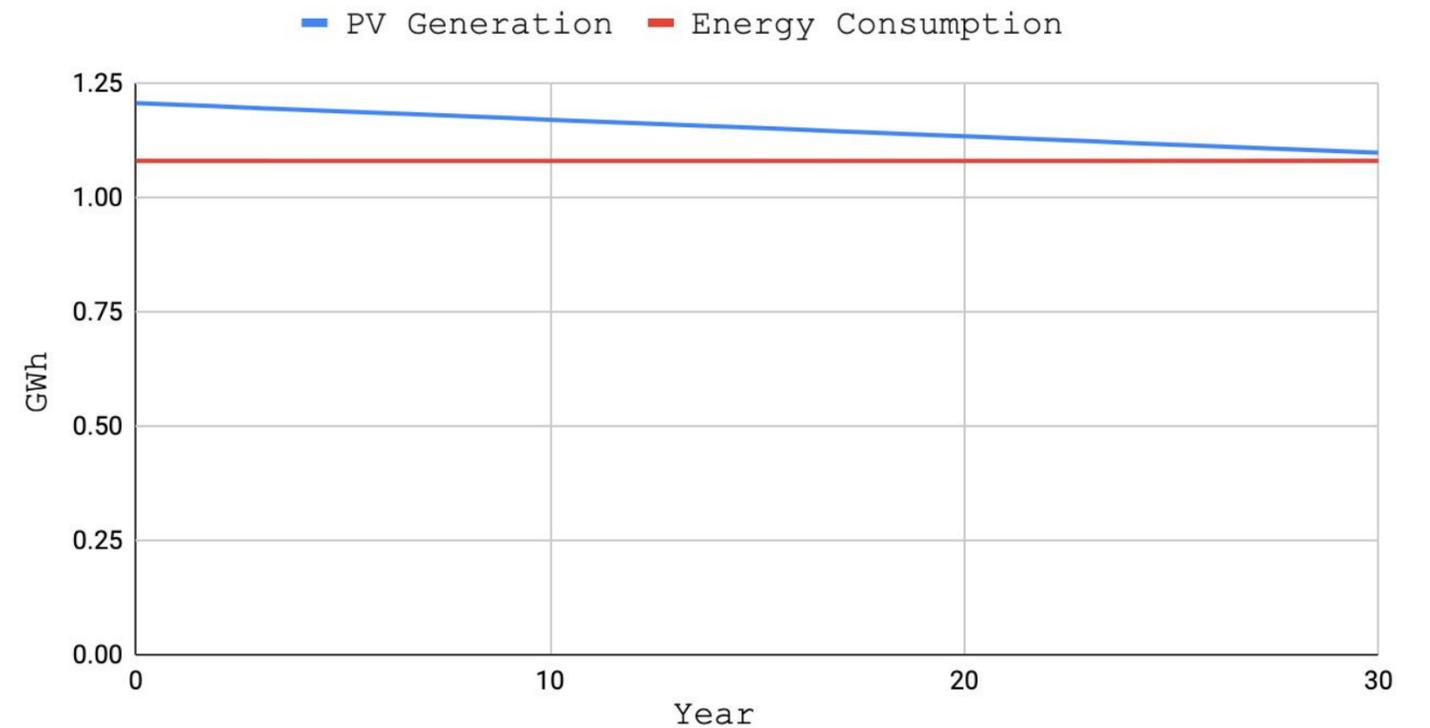
### DURING AFTERNOON PEAK



Monthly Grid Utilization During Peak Times



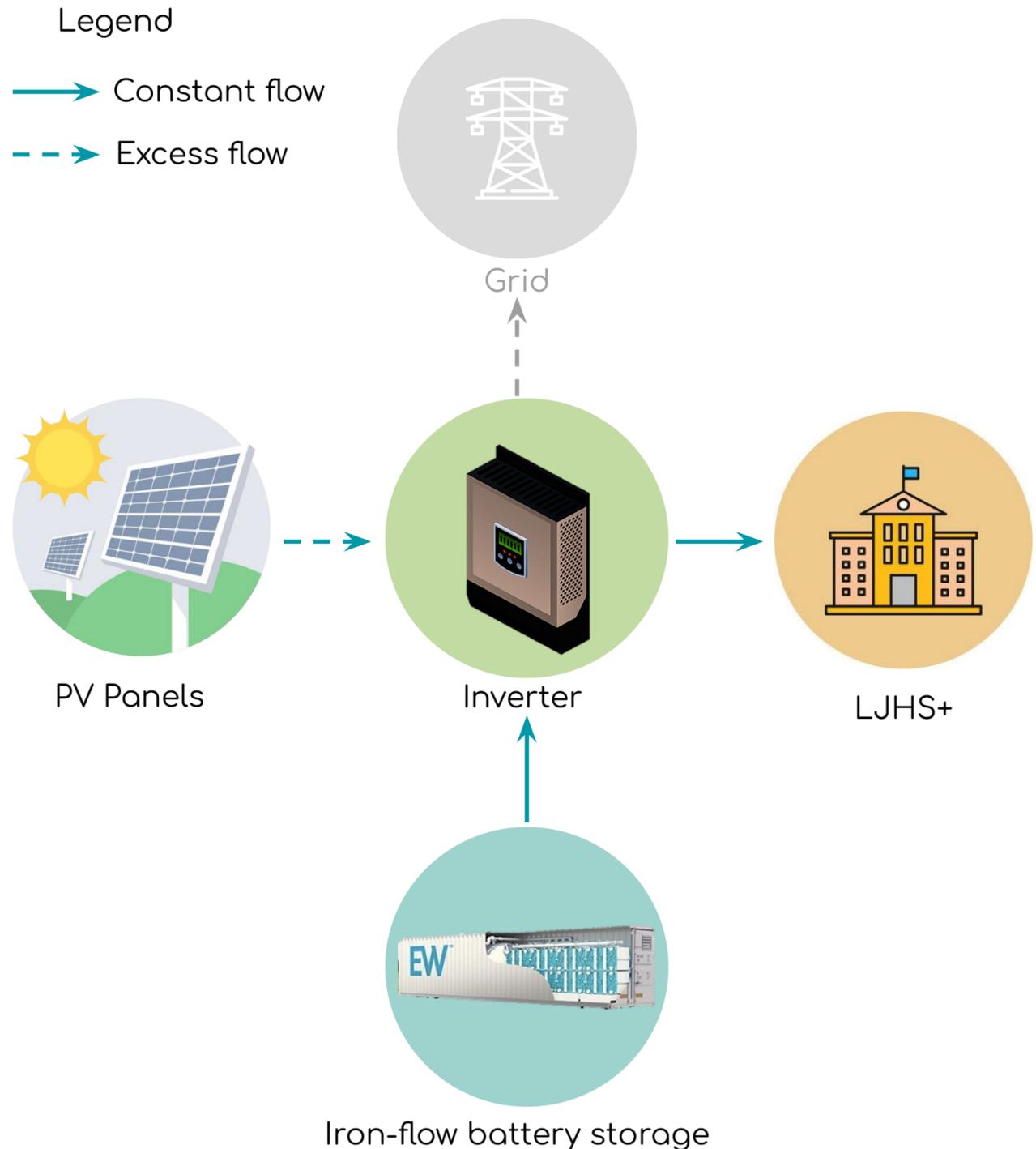
PV Generation and Energy Consumption



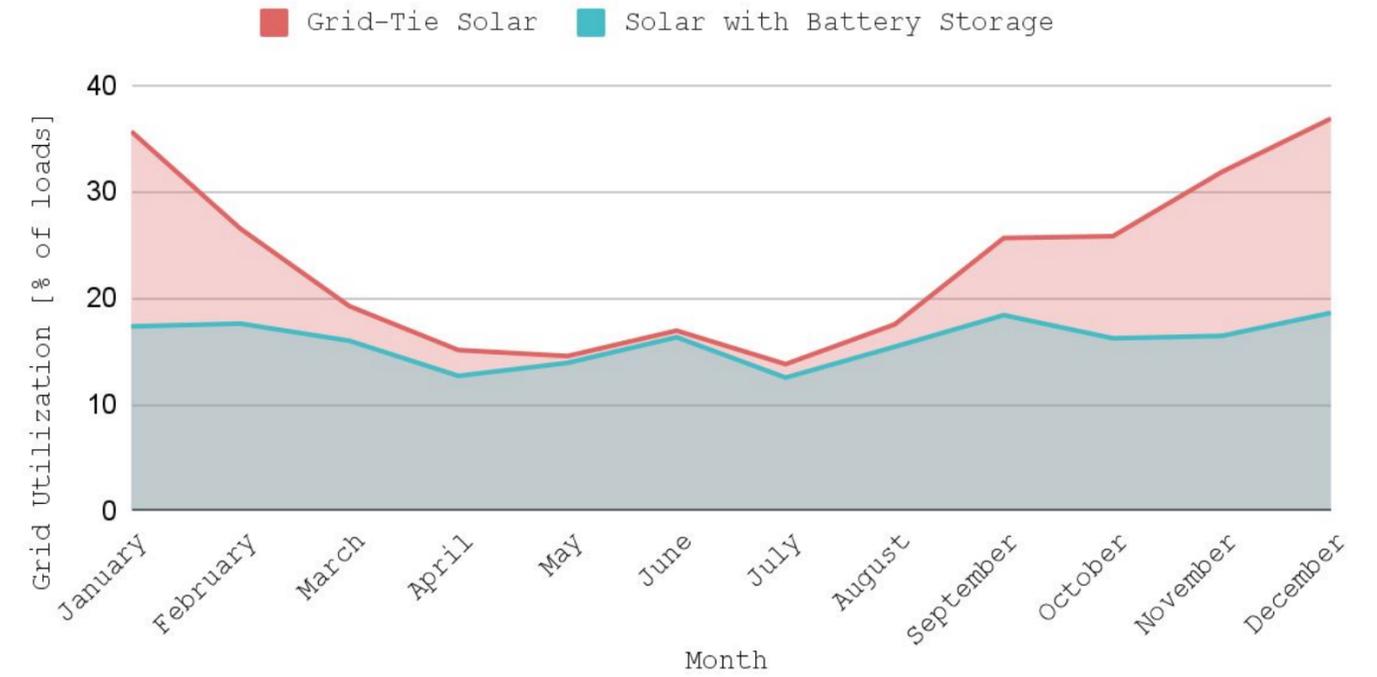
# ACTIVE ENERGY SYSTEM

## PHOTOVOLTAIC ARRAYS & STORAGE

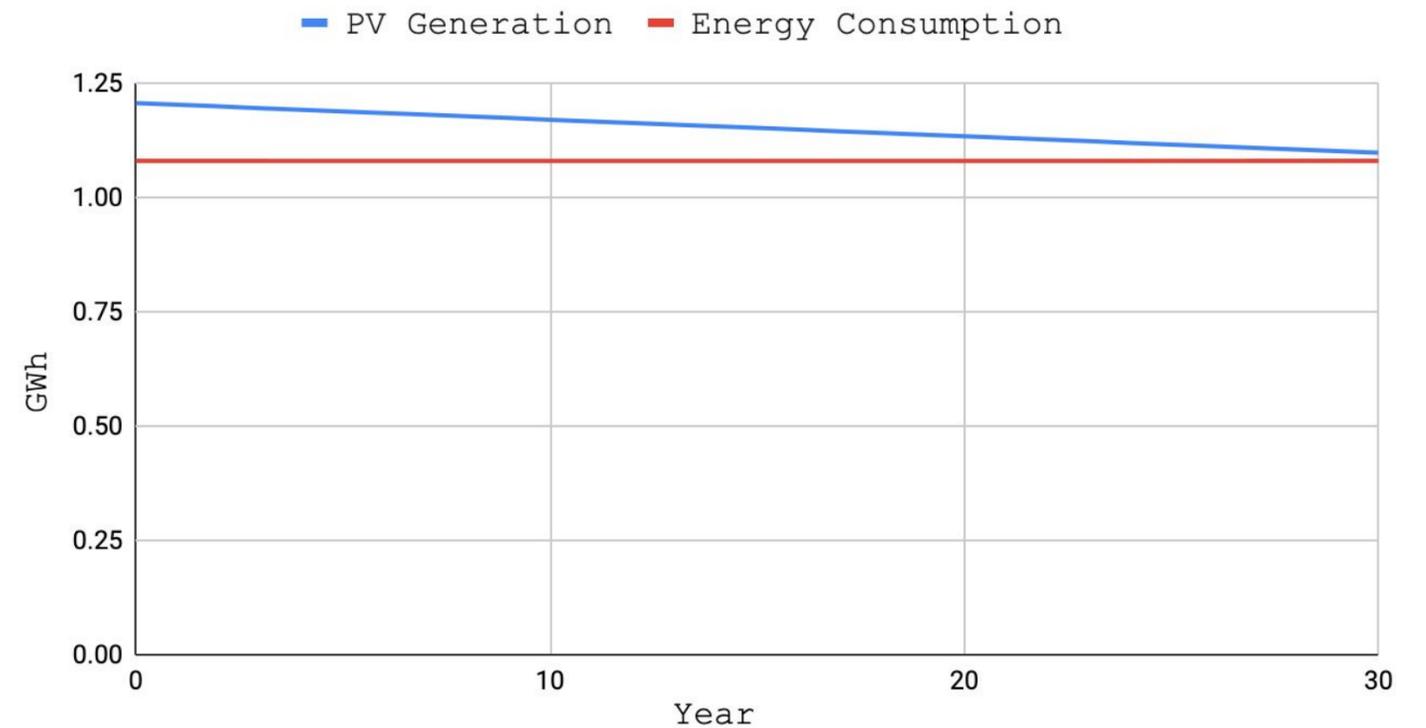
### DURING POWER OUTAGE



Monthly Grid Utilization During Peak Times

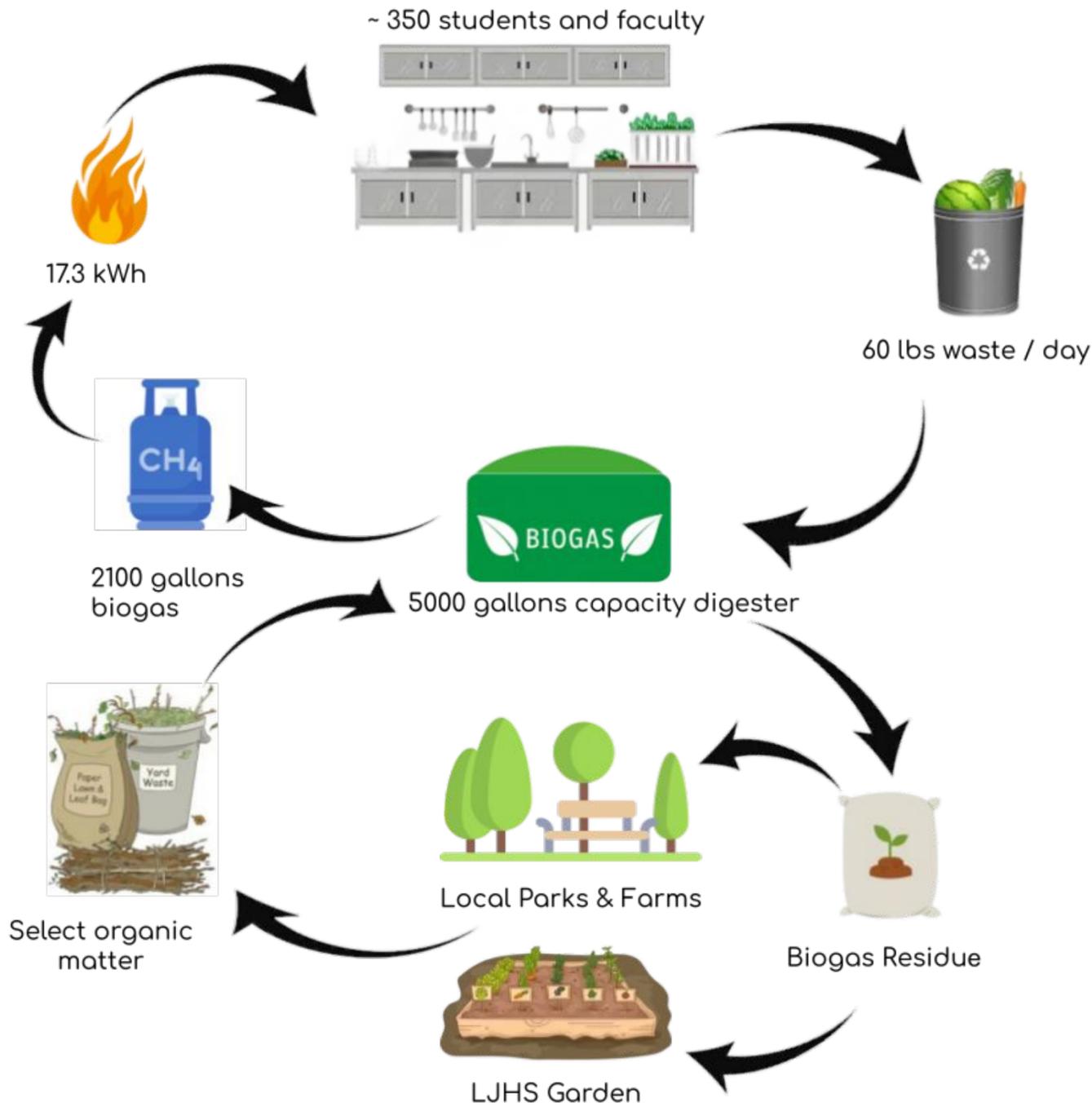


PV Generation and Energy Consumption



# ACTIVE ENERGY SYSTEM

## ANAEROBIC DIGESTER



Redirects 1 metric ton of methane per year from landfills  
Equivalent to 25 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> in terms of global warming potential  
Biogas residue reduces the need for energy-intensive fertilizers

# ACTIVE ENERGY SYSTEM

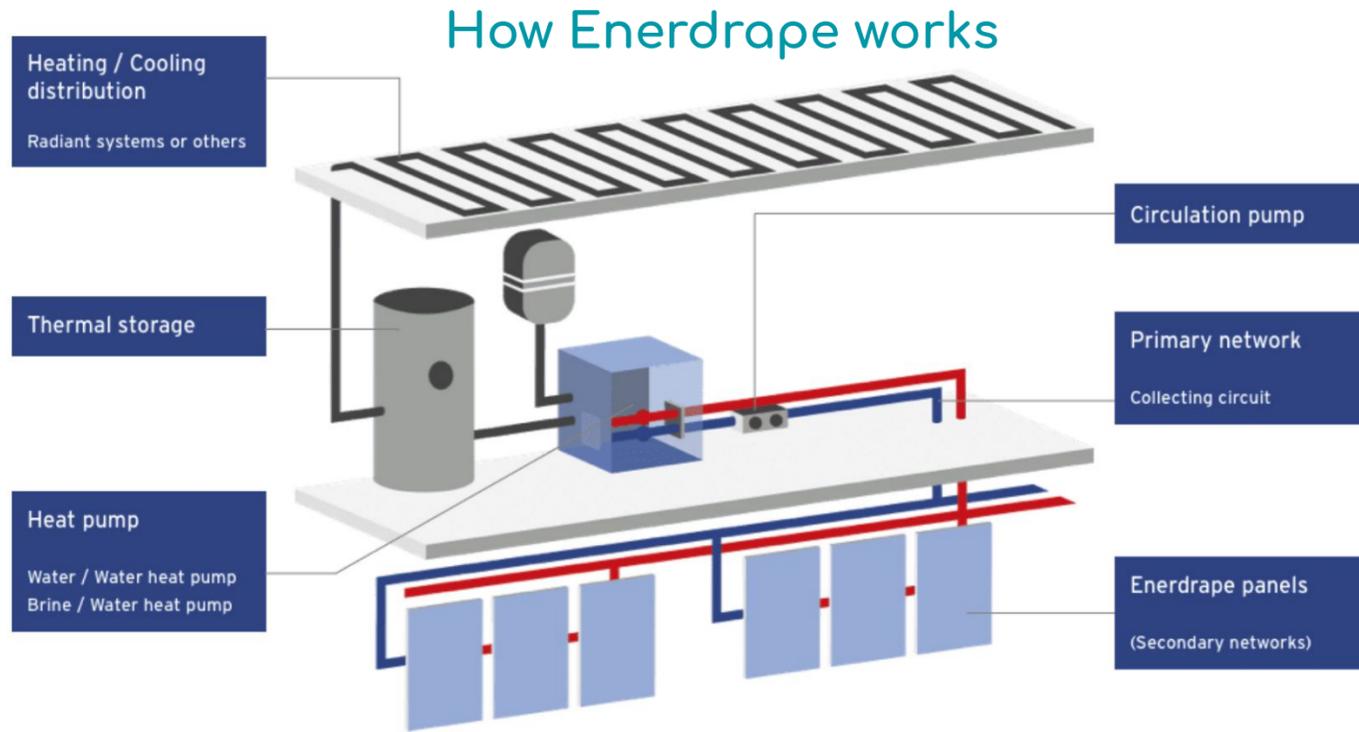
ENERDRAPE (New technology developed by a Northwestern professor)



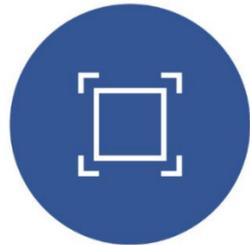
**Dr. Alessandro Rotta Loria**  
CTO & Co-founder of Enerdrape

Assistant Professor of Instruction

**Northwestern**  
McCORMICK SCHOOL  
OF ENGINEERING



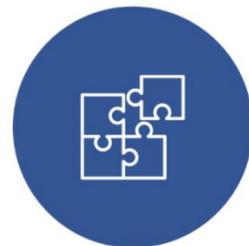
## Why Enerdrape?



**Retrofit-friendly**  
Minimal impact on the structure & minimal use of space



**Easy to install**  
Quick installation & quick coupling



**Modular**  
Scalable & Customisable



**CO2 Savings**  
On-site renewables & smart use of material



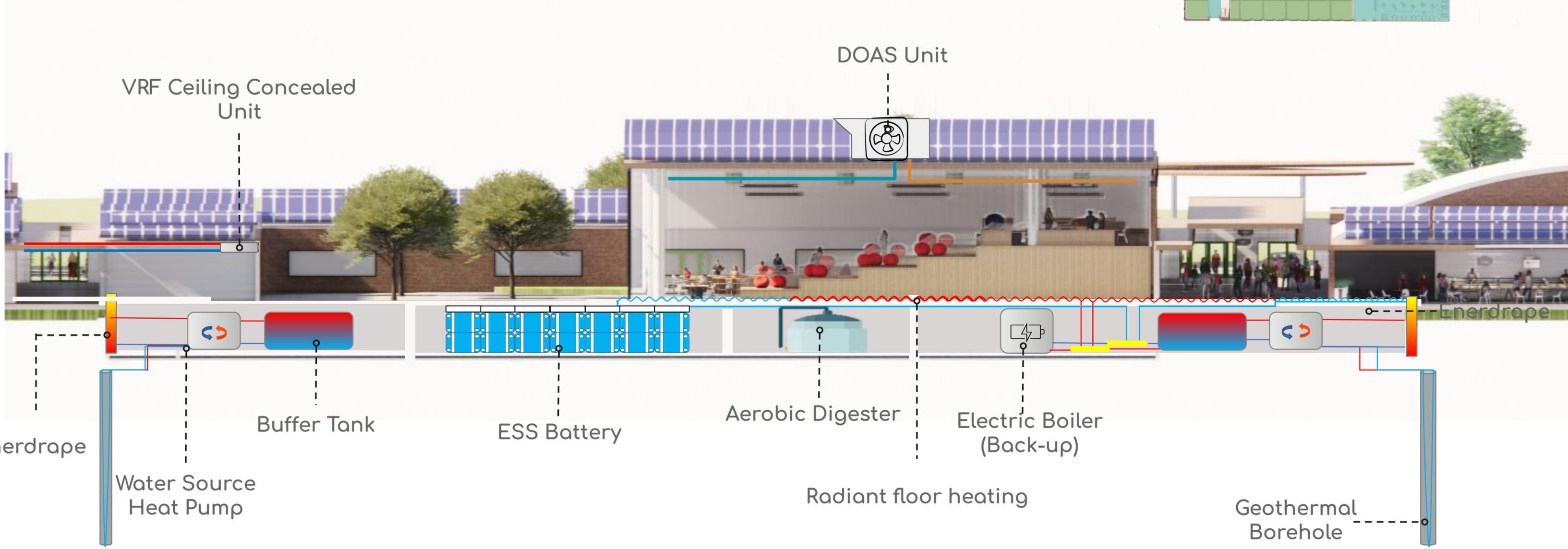
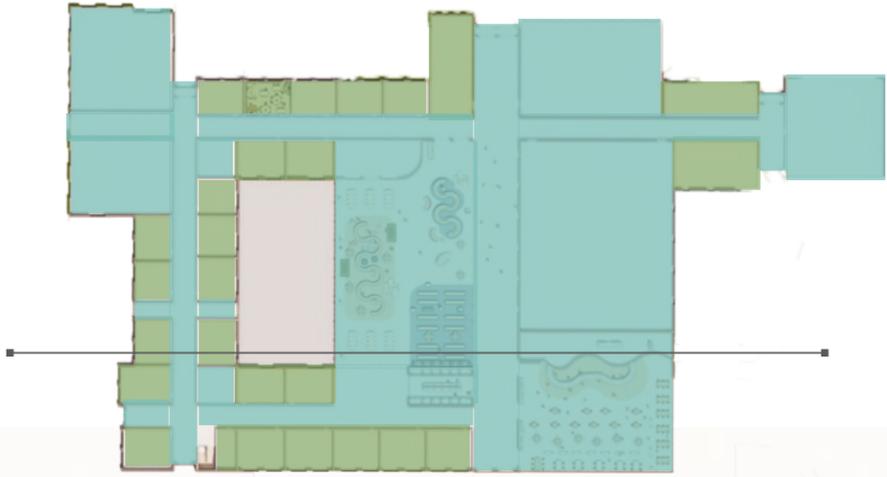
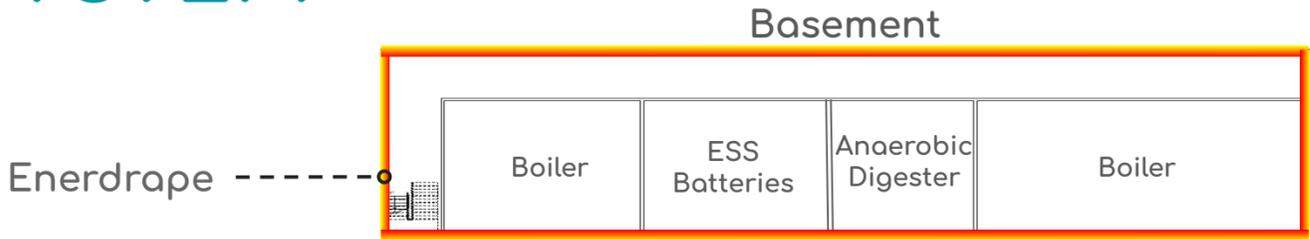
**Constant efficiency**  
Independent of exterior conditions

Able to supply 275 KWh of conditioning annually

<https://enerdrape.com/en/solution/>

# INTEGRATED HVAC SYSTEM

VRF Radiant floor heating



# COMFORT AND ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



## THERMAL COMFORT & AIR QUALITY

- Personalized temperature control
- High efficient radiant floor heating and VRF
- Efficient envelope design



## VISUAL COMFORT

- Daylighting and occupancy sensors
- Biophilic design



## ACOUSTIC COMFORT

- Separation of learning spaces from active spaces
- Acoustic ceilings and gypsum walls
- Acoustic HVAC system: radiant floor heating and VRF

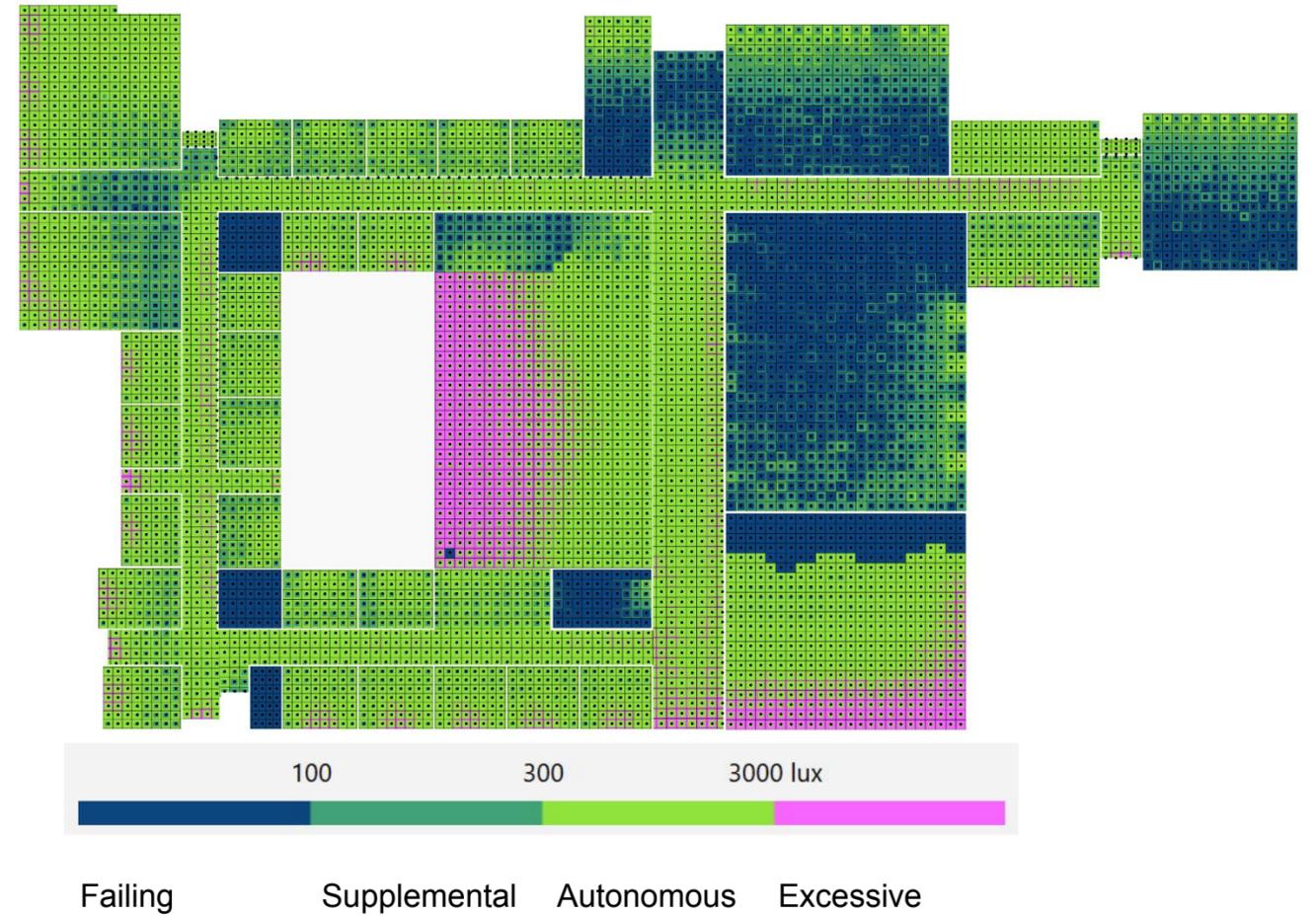
# DAYLIGHTING & SUN EXPOSURE

## sDA Analysis



sDA: spaces receiving 300 lux of daylight more than 50% of the occupied hours 8am-6pm throughout the year.

## Illuminance



# DAYLIGHTING & SUN EXPOSURE

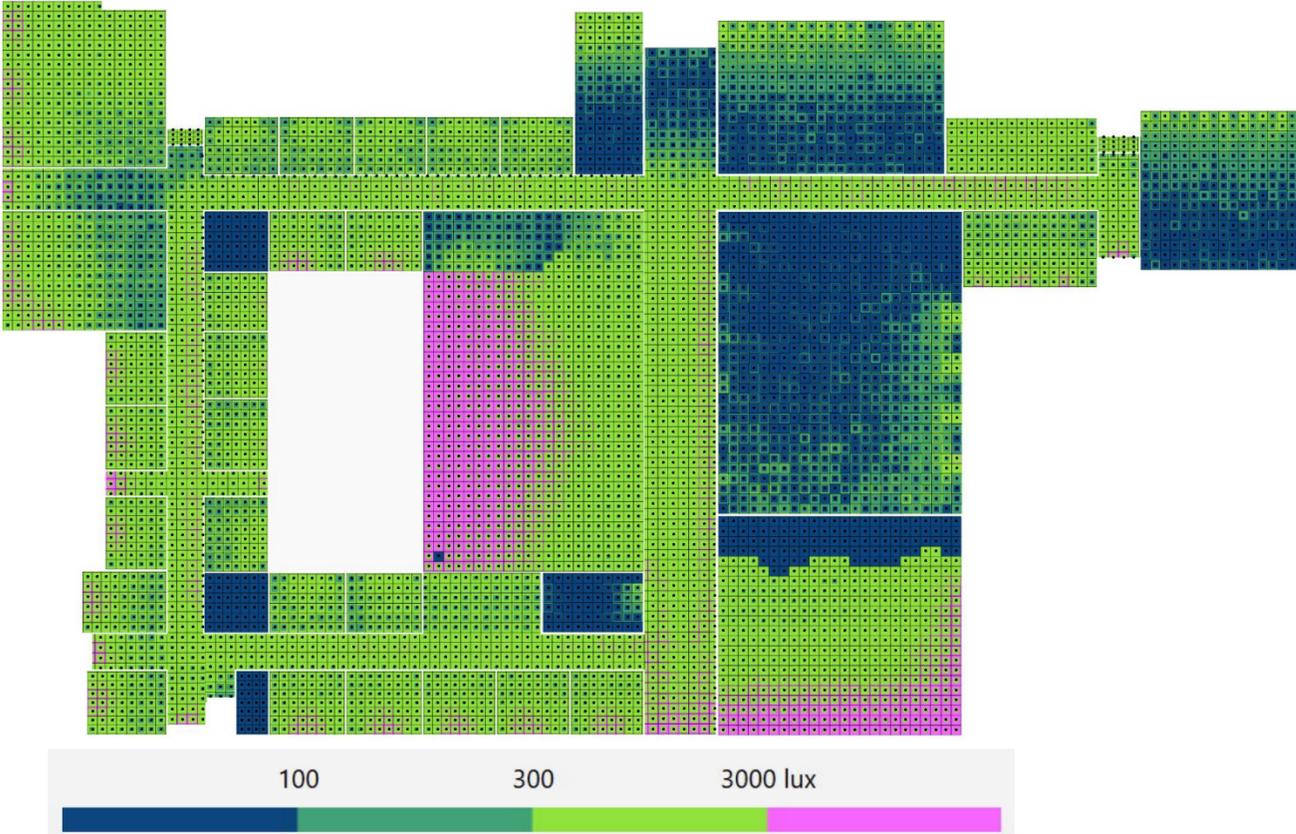
sDA Analysis



sDA: spaces receiving 300 lux of daylight more than 50% of the occupied hours 8am-6pm throughout the year.



Illuminance



Failing Supplemental Autonomous Excessive



# PASSIVE STRATEGIES

Site Section  
Looking from south-east



# BUILDING AUTOMATION

## SMART TECHNOLOGIES



Occupancy sensor



Daylighting sensor



Energy Star Appliances



Energy efficient LED fixtures



Plug load manager

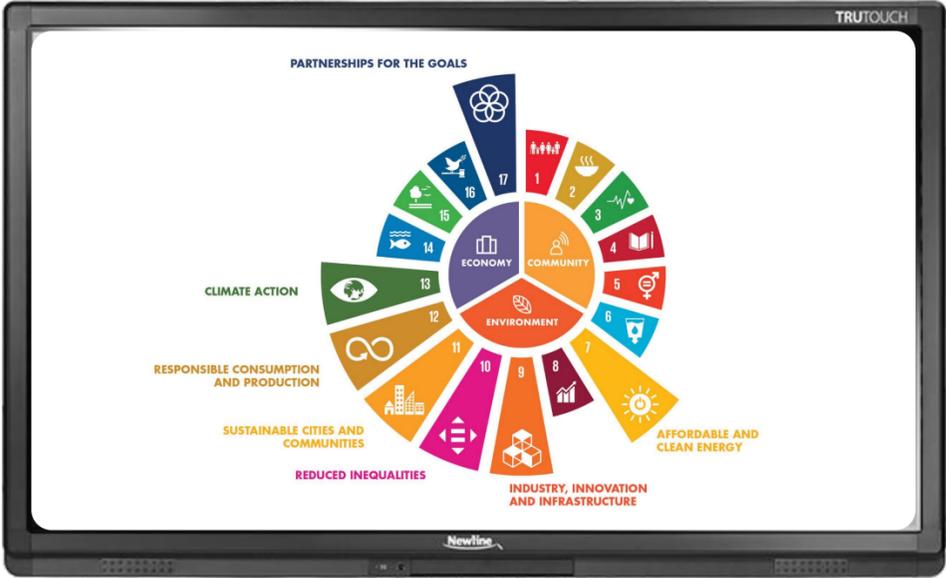
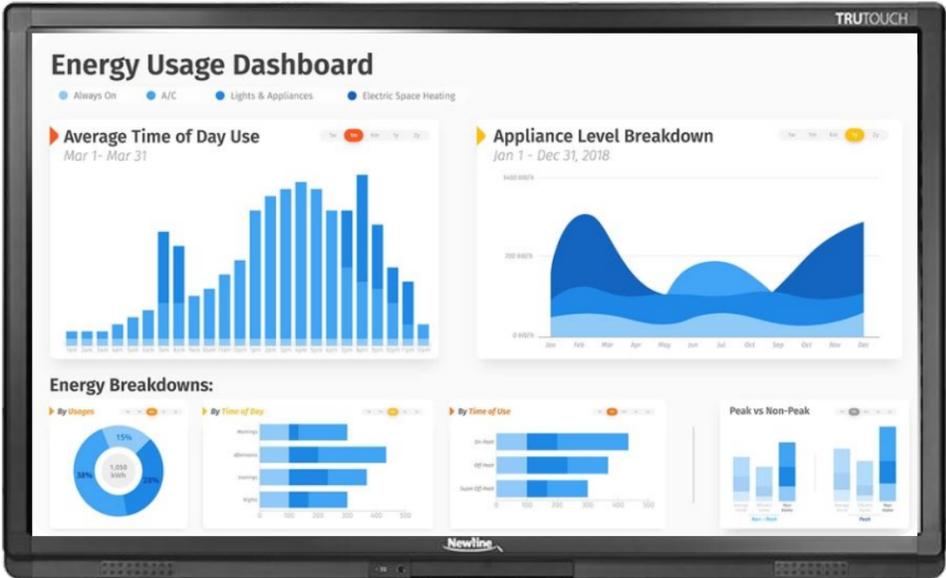


Smart thermostat



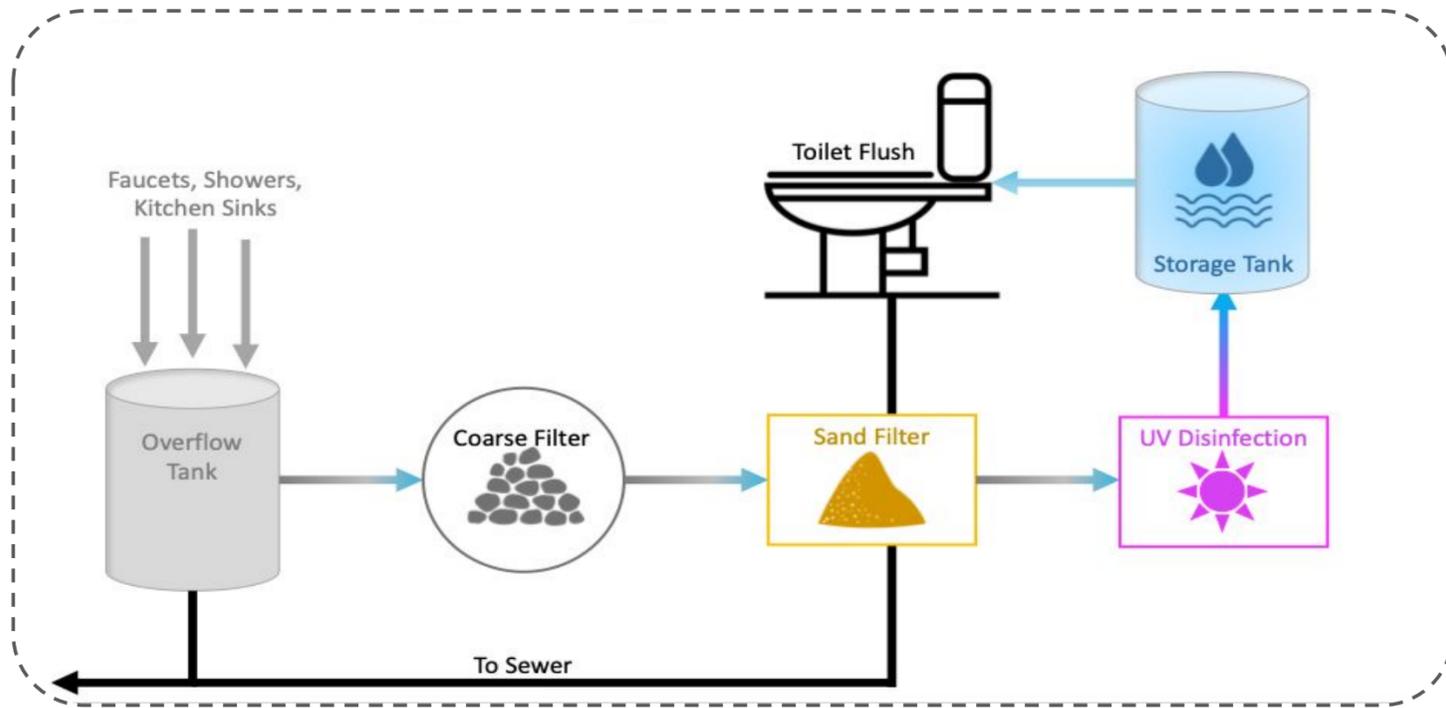
Security camera

## EDUCATIONAL DASHBOARD

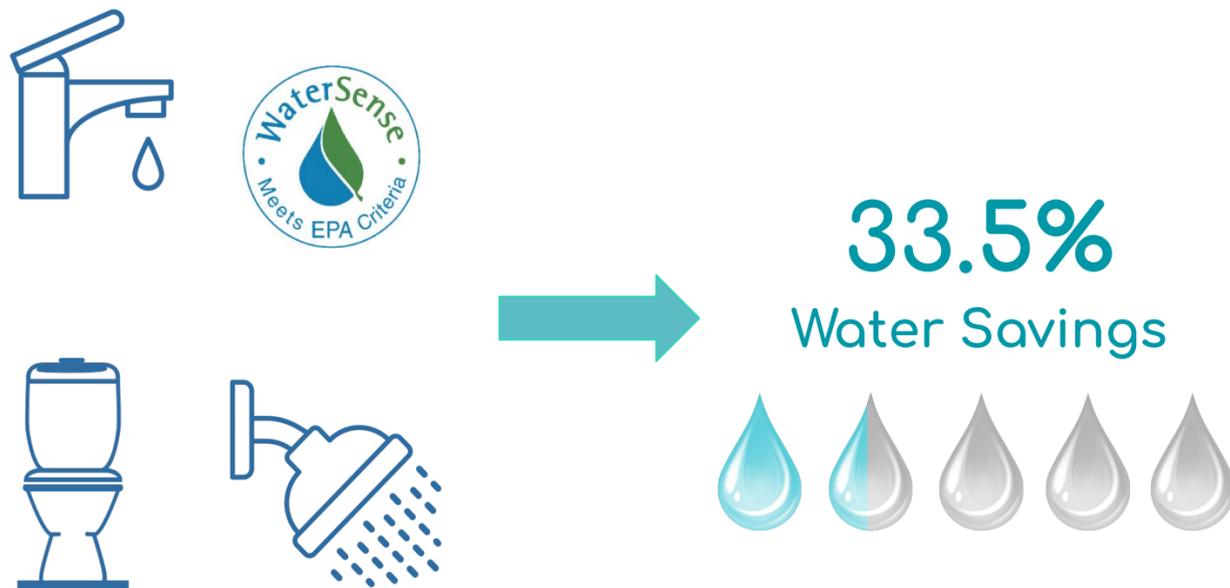


# WATER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

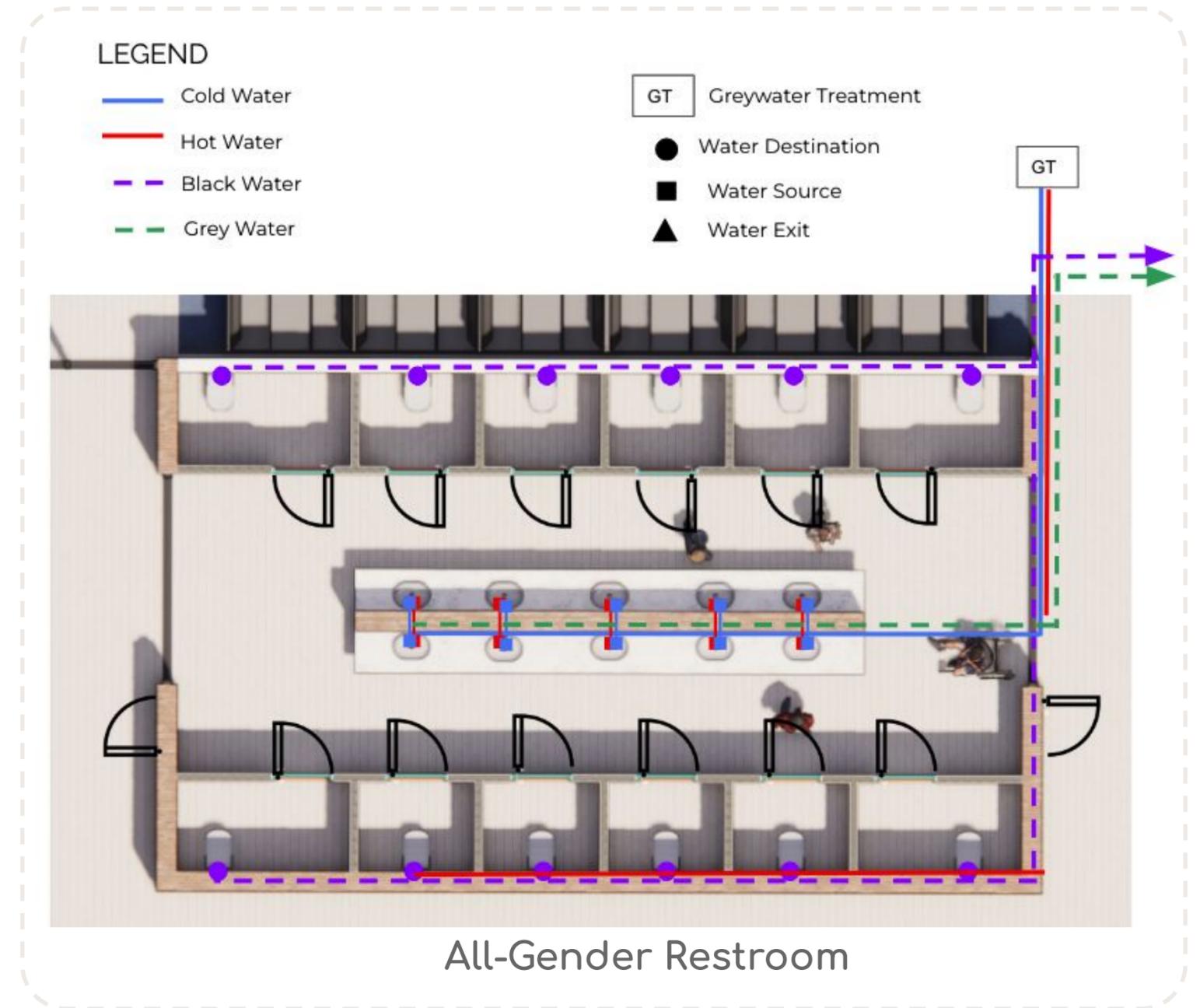
## GREYWATER REUSE SYSTEM



## WATER EFFICIENT FIXTURES



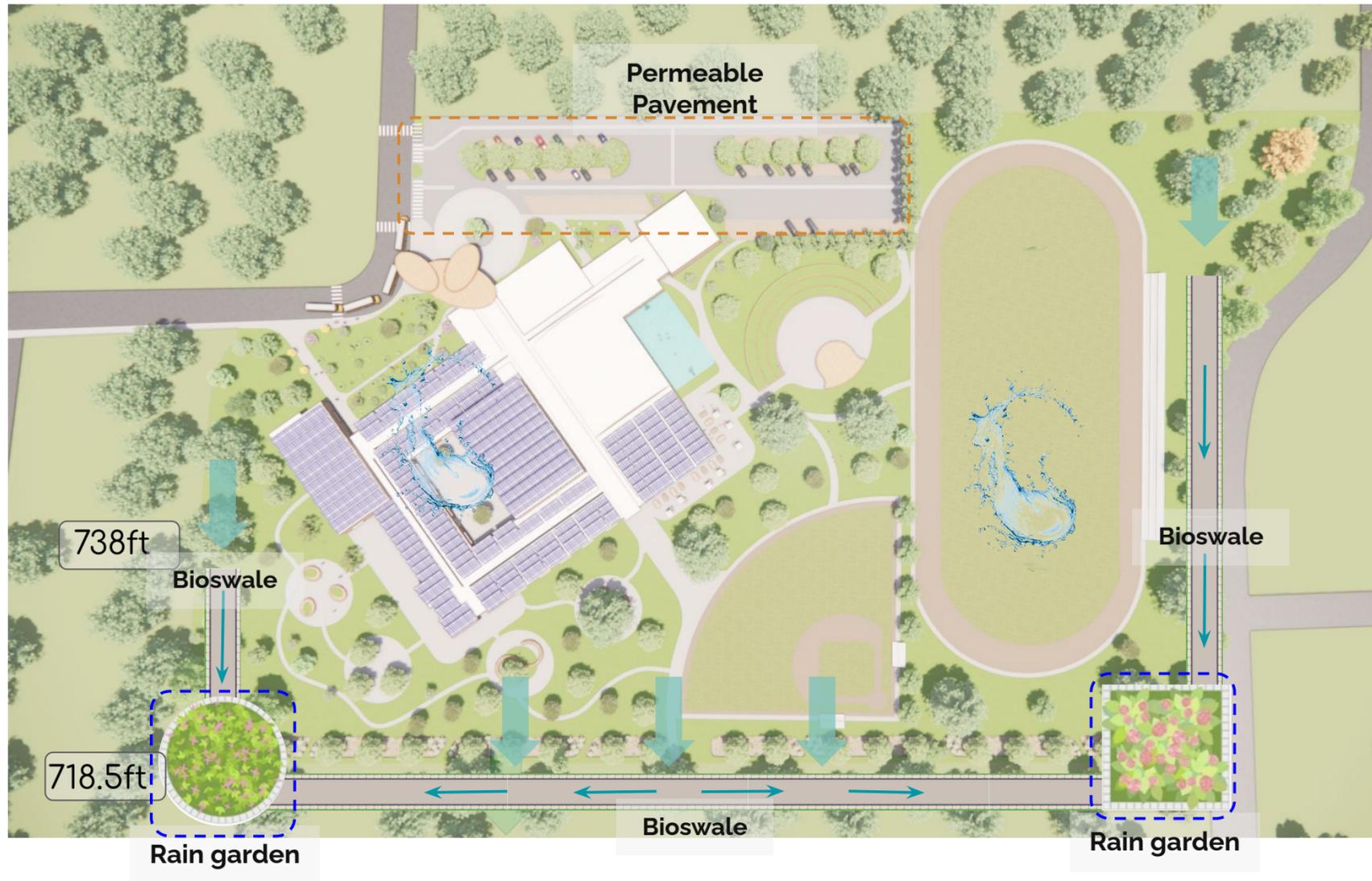
## PLUMBING SCHEMATIC DIAGRAM



All-Gender Restroom

# WATER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

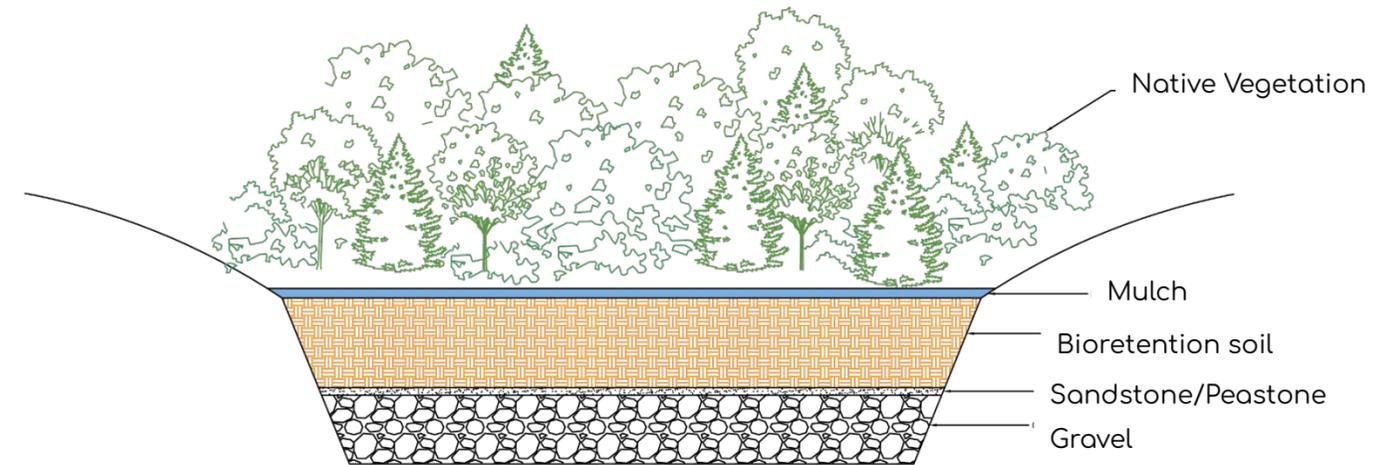
## STORMWATER SYSTEM



## PERMEABLE PAVEMENT

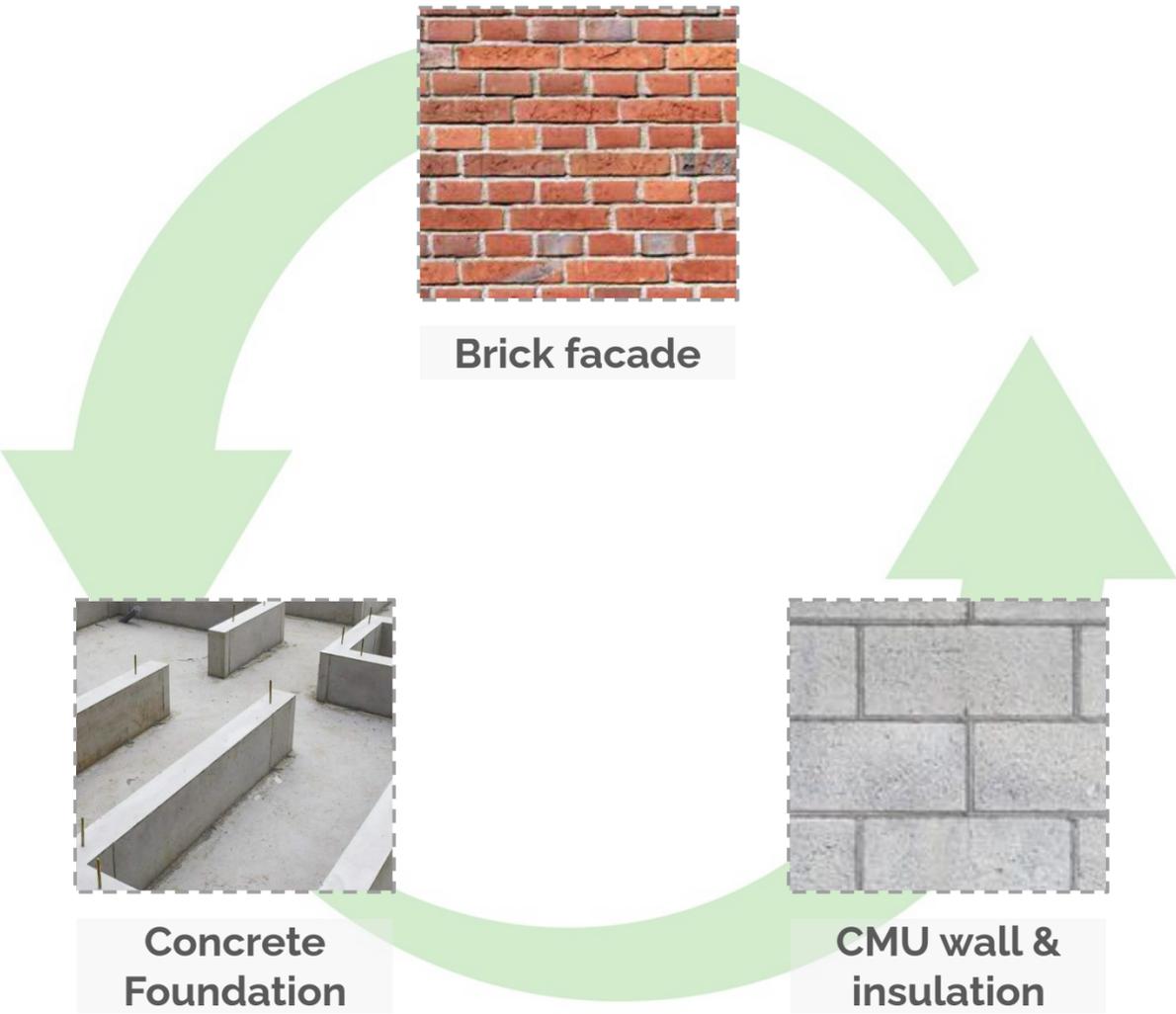


## RAIN GARDEN



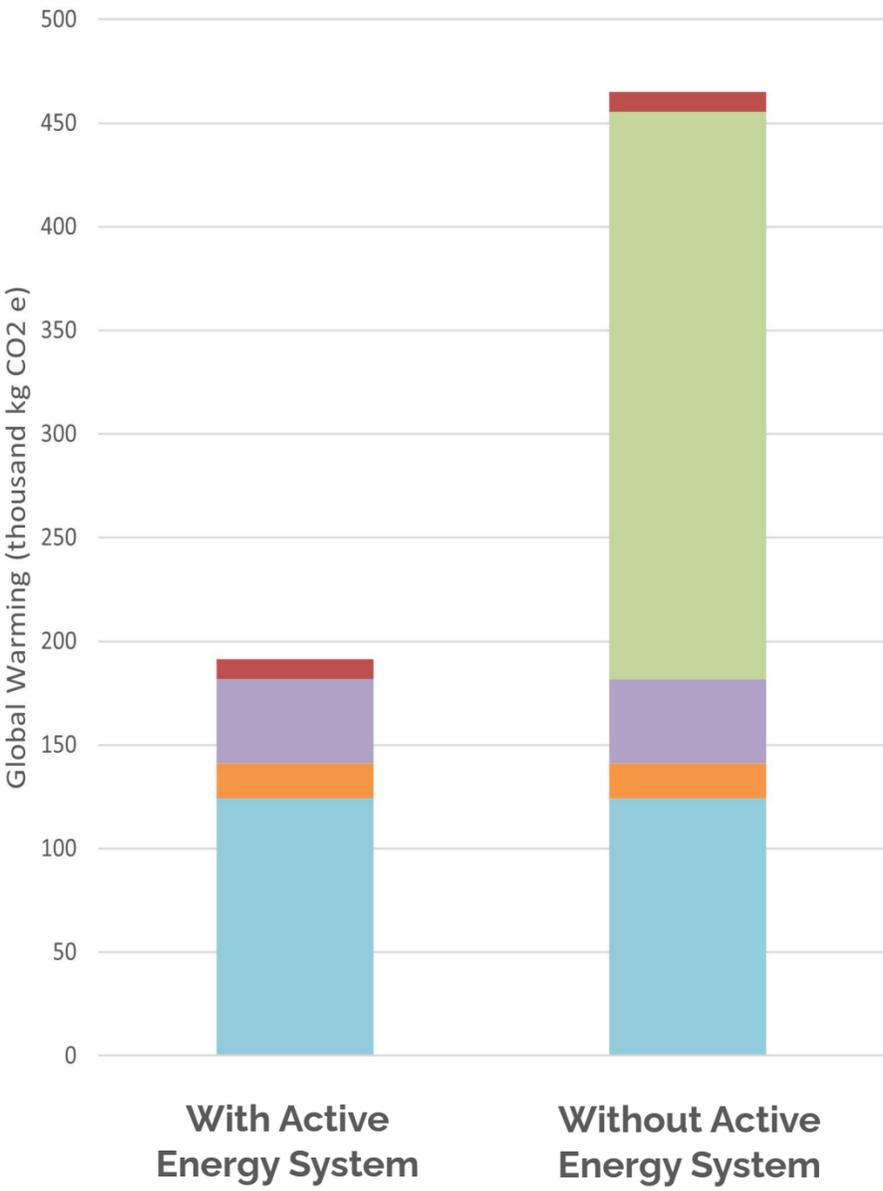
# EMBODIED ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

## REUSE OF MATERIALS



## LCA "CRADLE TO GRAVE"

Global Warming by life stage (kg CO<sub>2</sub>)



## Carbon Benchmark

Cradle to grave (A1-A4, B4-B5, C1-C4)	kg CO <sub>2</sub> e/m <sup>2</sup>
( < 200 ) A	20
( 200-290 ) B	
( 290-380 ) C	
( 380-470 ) D	
( 470-560 ) E	
( 560-650 ) F	
( > 650 ) G	

- A1-A3 Materials
- A4 Transport
- B6 Energy
- C1-C4 End of Life

Active System:  
 PV + Geothermal Heat pump + Enerdrape

# ENERGY PERFORMANCE

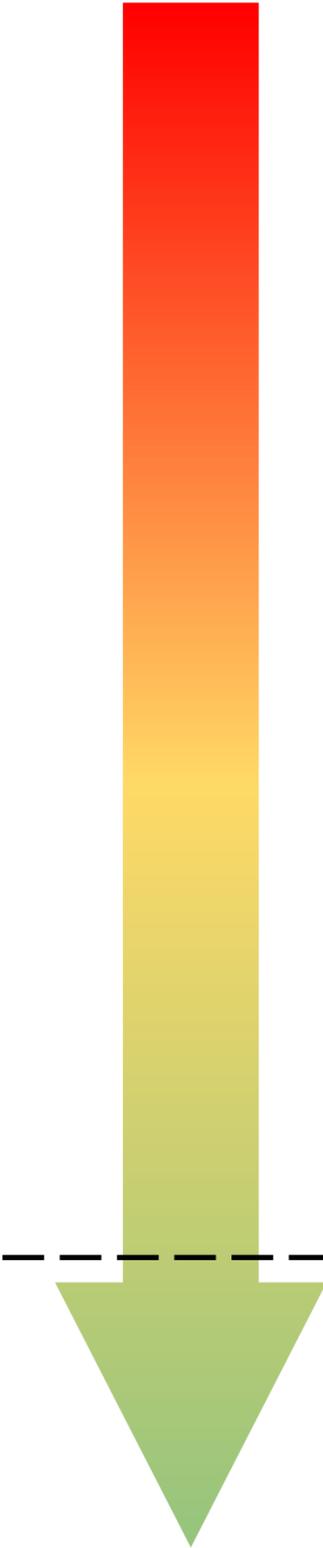
Current Building



Retrofit Building



Retrofit with Onsite PV



## HVAC Upgrades

Natural Gas Boilers → GSHP

Fan Coil Units → Hydronic floor heating VRF & DOAS



## Envelope Improvements

Air gap Insulation → Cellulose Insulation

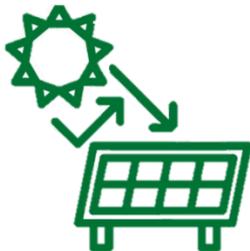
Residential Grade Windows → Double-glazed Windows



## Sensors & Automation

Fixed lighting levels → Occupancy and Daylighting Sensors

Fixed ventilation rates → CO<sub>2</sub> sensors and Room-controlled VRF



## Onsite PV Generation





CONCLUSION

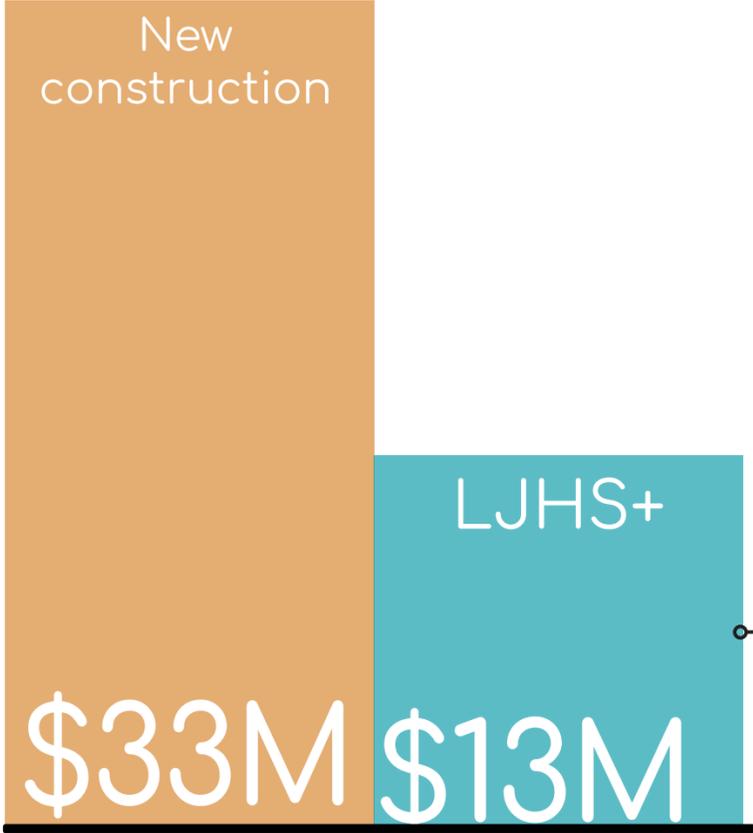
# MARKET ANALYSIS

# FINANCIAL FEASIBILITY

Cost Per Square Foot



Total Costs



**COST BREAKDOWN**

**CONSTRUCTION = \$3.1M**  
Materials cost, construction cost, retrofit cost, and labor

**MEP = \$7.1M**  
Mechanical, electrical, renewables, sensors, HVAC, water

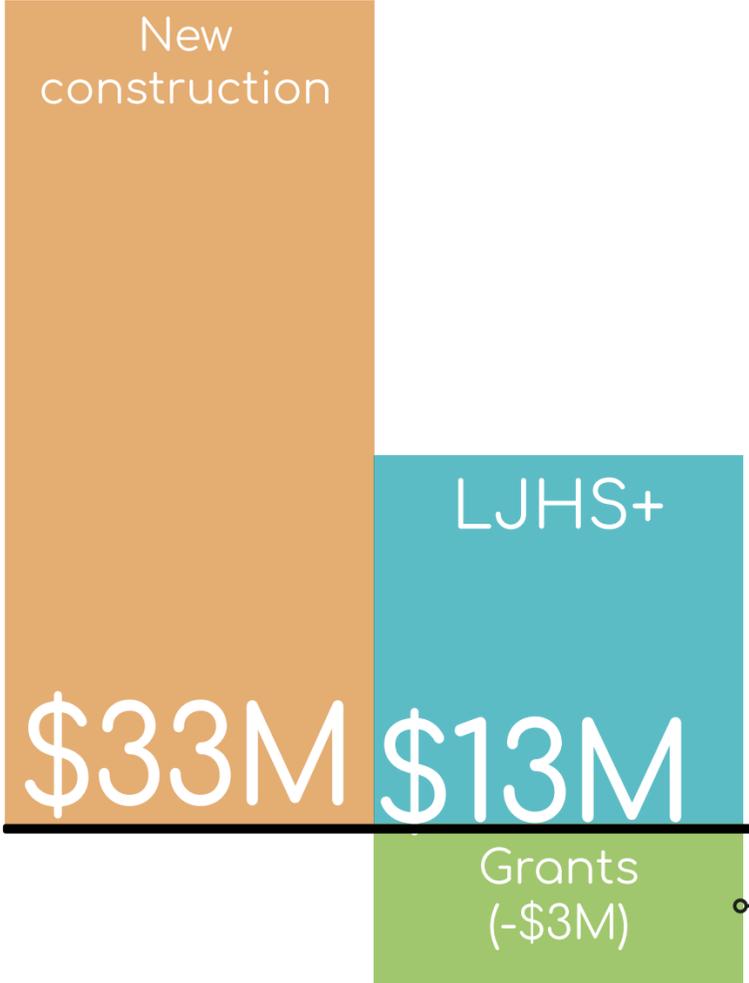
**OVERHEAD = 10%**  
General contractors and miscellaneous costs

# FINANCIAL FEASIBILITY

Cost Per Square Foot



Total Costs



**AVAILABLE TAX CREDITS AND REBATES**

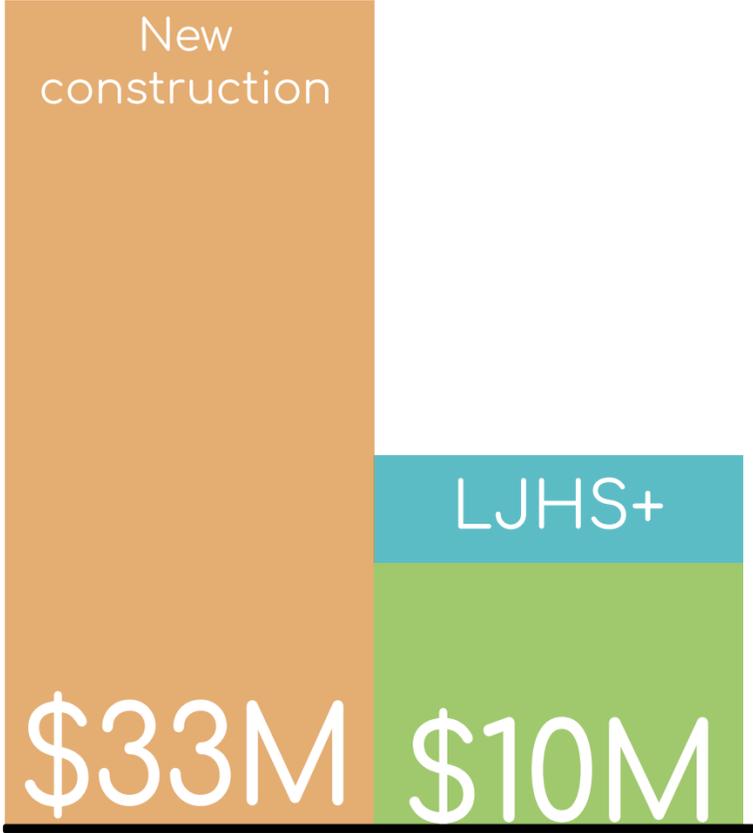
- DE-FOA-00002756**  
Energy innovation initiatives being implemented in K-12
- DE-FOA-00002632**  
Implementation of geothermal energy
- DE-FOA-00002788**  
Implementation of renewable energy strategies

# FINANCIAL FEASIBILITY

Cost Per Square Foot



Total Costs

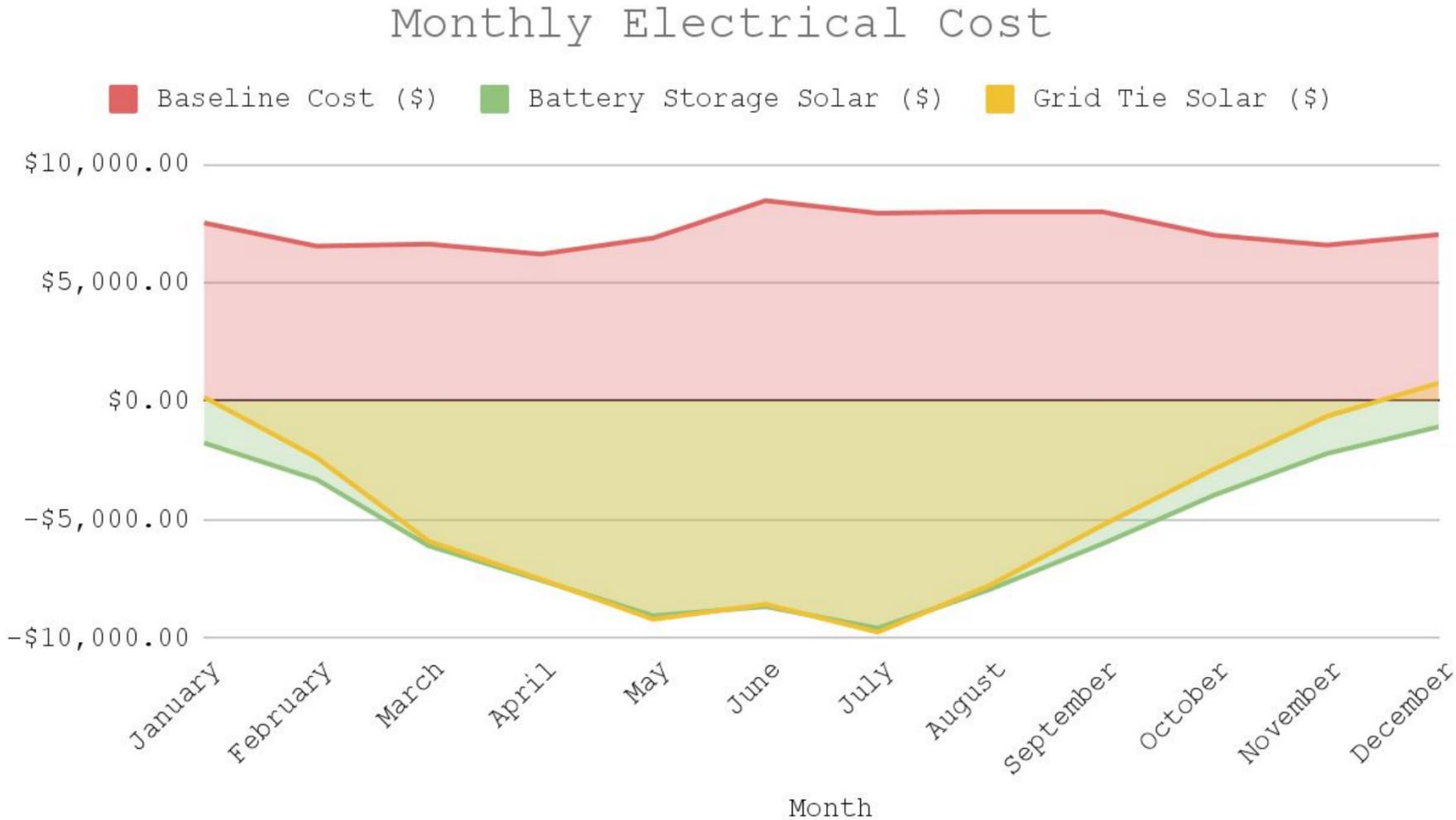


**AVAILABLE TAX CREDITS AND REBATES**

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# SOLAR RETURN ON INVESTMENT

## Initial Investment



Net Cost  
**\$1.2M**

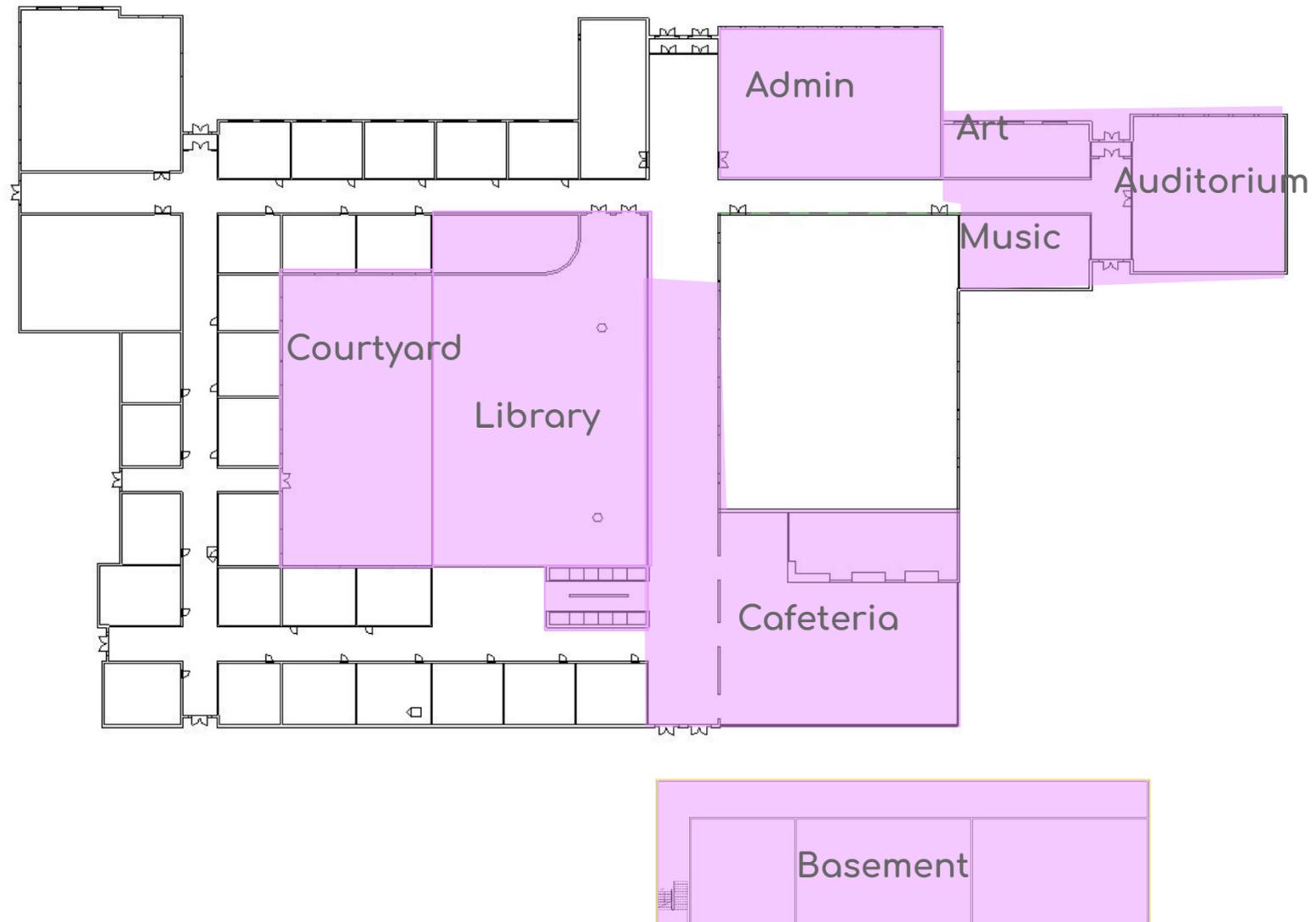
8 Years  
Breakeven  
**\$0**

25 Years  
Excess  
**\$3.5M**

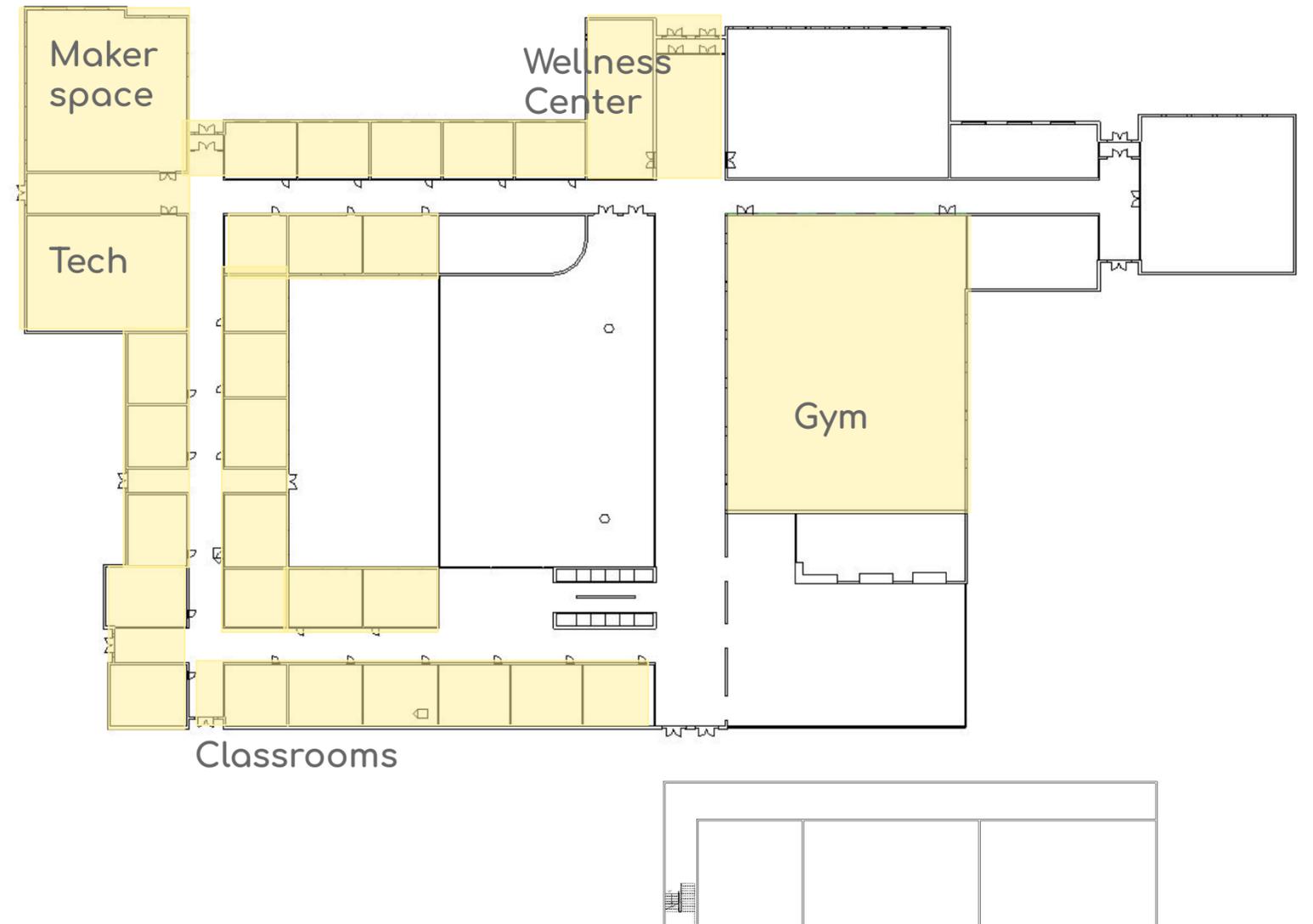
# WHY RETROFIT MAKES SENSE

## PHASE CONSTRUCTION

### Retrofitted Immediately

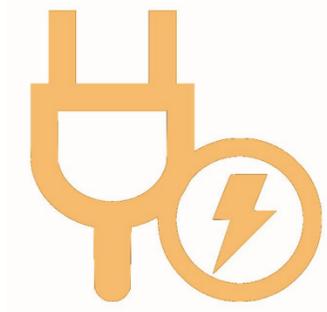


### Retrofitted Over Summer



# DEFINE SOLUTIONS

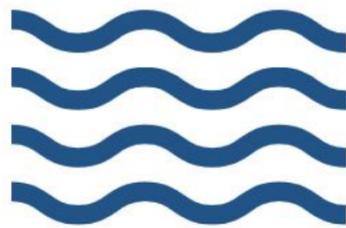
## Environmental Impacts of retroffing LJHS



Produce green energy on site

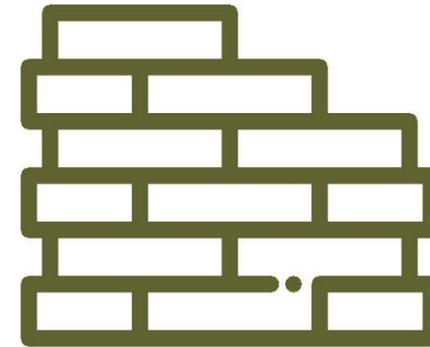


Minimize embodied and operational carbon with refurbishment



Save water usage through greywater system and efficient fixtures

## Social benefit of retroffing LJHS



### Refurbish aging School Infrastructures

Increase lifespan of public schools in the US

Save **\$110 billions** every year on maintenance, operation, and capital construction in PK-12 public school facilities

# THE BIGGER PICTURE



## ACCESSIBILITY AND INCLUSIVITY

Accessible spaces and gender neutral restrooms



## COMMUNITY OUTDOOR

Interior courtyard, outside basketball court, and amphitheatre for a variety of outdoor experiences



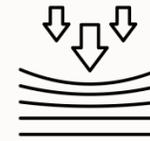
## FLEXIBLE LEARNING

Classrooms and library support different learning modes



## NATURAL LIGHT

Skylights, passive strategies, and classrooms relocated to maximize natural light



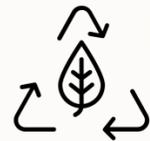
## RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE

Design prioritizes disaster mitigation, security and protection against moisture degradation



## SMART TECHNOLOGY

Occupancy sensors to personalize comfort and save energy



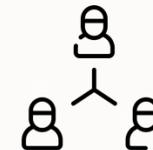
## AIRTIGHT ENVELOPE -

Efficient building science control layers



## CLEAN ENERGY GENERATION

Solar, biogas, and geothermal energy generated on-site



## WATER MANAGEMENT

Stormwater management and greywater from sinks reused in toilets



## FINANCIALLY FEASIBLE

Structurally preserved, and generate revenue from PVs



## INTEGRATED SYSTEM

Efficient, decoupled HVAC, and DOAS units

THE ARCHITECTURE & ENGINEERING WORK TOGETHER